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TOPICS OF THE DAY.

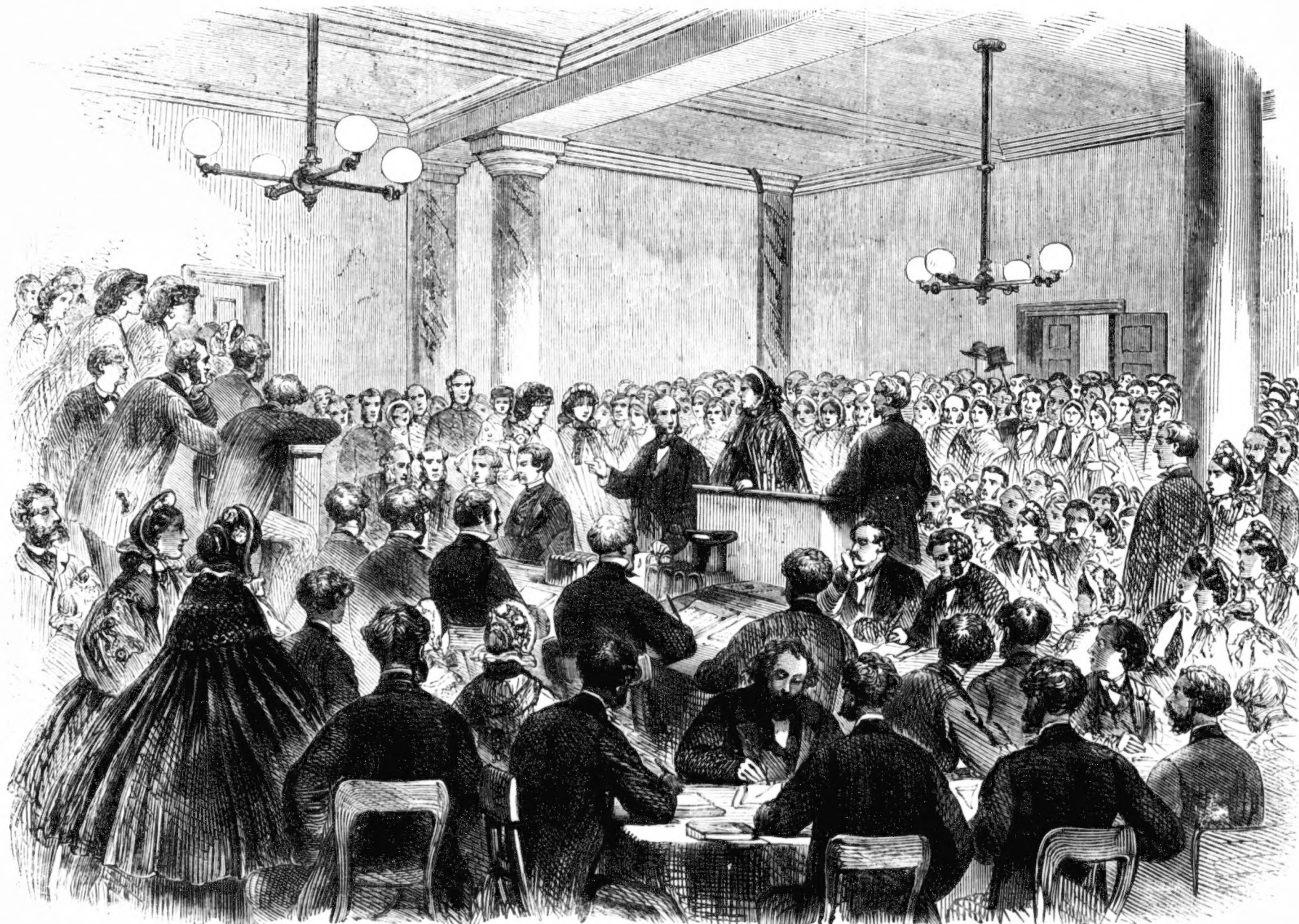
A DEEPER and deeper gloom seems to be gradually enveloping the horizon and spreading itself over the firmament of the political world. Wars and rumours of wars are the general, indeed the only, topic of conversation. Look where you will, the same uniform prospect meets the eye. In America not only is a civil war dragging its slow, ignoble length along, but something very like a foreign invasion is also imminent, which may or may not result in conquest. There is little to be said on the subject of the hostilities between the disrupted States except that they appear to be confined to "sensation paragraphs" in the public journals. When we read of an army of 30,000 men being dispersed by the charge of a single brigade of another army which numbers in all little more than one-tenth of the enemy, and when we further find that the "dispersed" forces renewed the attack on the following day, it is evident that such accounts must be accepted with great reservation and with many "a grain of salt." But on the same continent more serious operations are "looming in the future," though they may not be immediately contemplated by those about to engage in them. A triple expedition, it is said, is to follow the track first made by Cortes; but far more formidable weapons than sufficed to route the affrighted hosts of Montezuma will be brought to bear upon the descendants of both the conquerors and the conquered. There is little probability, however, this time, of the invaders being enriched and ruined by the magnificence of the spoils destined to reward their prowess. The barbaric wealth of the Aztec rulers has long since flowed in fertilising streams over another continent, and neither costly gems nor precious metals tempt the cupidity of an invader. The utmost the allies propose to effect is to prevent the influx of their own money into Mexico until such time as the wrongs of their respective subjects have been fully redressed. They affect to believe, and perhaps really desire, that this object may be attained by the temporary confiscation of the customs dues levied at the principal ports of that distracted country; and in this expectation, so far as past pecuniary claims are concerned, they

will scarcely be disappointed. It needs but little reflection, however, to perceive that no security will be thus provided against the recurrence of the grievances which are now to be mitigated rather than atoned for. In the absence of an established Government there can be no responsibility, nor in the presence of contending factions can there be any safety for the life and property of either subjects or foreigners. The elements of good government do not even exist in Mexico, through the degradation of its inhabitants. Not only is it peopled by a mixed race, but by one that is continually deteriorating. It is a manifest law of nature that the European cannot commingle his blood with that of an Asiatic or a native American without the production of a race both morally and physically inferior. What hope, then, is there for the restoration of Mexico to its proper place among the nations of the Western Hemisphere unless a complete and radical change be effected, not only in its administration but in its very population? If there be any such hope, it can only be fulfilled through an extensive immigration of Anglo-Saxons, but which cannot be looked for except under an Anglo-Saxon protectorate. It is, therefore, to be regretted that the British Government, untaught by its experiences in the Crimean and Chinese Wars, should have again fettered its action by an alliance with foreign Powers. A character for moderate and disinterested views may be too dearly purchased; and, after all, it is usually regarded as the mark of weakness or hypocrisy. One very important lesson, however, is afforded for our own application in the wretched condition to which Mexico has become reduced. If it be true, as the leading journal somewhat despondingly remarks, that "the old policy of Spain, by which every office was given to born Spaniards, was better than the ruinous equality of races which now prevails," it may be worth while to consider whether the exclusive system of the old East India Company may not have been wiser than the *doctrinaire* system introduced by Sir Charles Wood and upheld by Mr. Bright and the Duke of Argyll.

Another collision between barbarism and civilisation will hardly be avoided in the Far East, unless both firmness and

forbearance be largely displayed by the representatives of Great Britain in the island-empire of Japan. Although the atrocious outrage recently offered to the British Legation at Yeddo cannot be allowed to pass with impunity, it may still be asked by what law Europeans are entitled to force themselves upon a people who have no desire to hold any intercourse with them. The international law of Europe cannot fairly be applied to either China or Japan in defiance of the wishes of the inhabitants and Governments of those countries. In the case of Japan, indeed, we have not even the shallow excuse of self-interest, there being no likelihood of a commerce exceeding the most insignificant proportions. It must be remembered, too, that Mr. Alcock was forewarned that his journey into the interior would be attended with personal danger; and yet he neither took a small guard of English sailors or marines, nor even the ordinary precaution of seeing that his suite was sufficiently well armed to repel such an attack as that which was actually committed. If official persons will persist in encountering peril, they should at least pay some attention to the usual means of averting the consequences. It will assuredly give little satisfaction to the heavily-taxed population of this country to be drawn into a war with Japan because Mr. Alcock thought proper to make a tour into the interior armed only with a full-dress rapier.

In New Zealand, again, there is every reason to apprehend a second outbreak of hostilities, simply because the colonial policy of this country is so vacillating and ill-defined that one day the aborigines are treated as independent allies and on the morrow as subjects of the British Crown. This is one of the inconveniences that result from government by parties. It is necessary that each should adopt a different system without too closely examining into its real merits or disadvantages. Another evil is the anomalous relation of the Colonial Governments to the Imperial one. They assume authority to send British troops against the native tribes on their frontiers without considering themselves at all bound to contribute to the expenses of the operations originated by themselves. It is obvious that constant causes of quarrel must supervene between pushing unscrupulous



FINAL EXAMINATION OF RICHARD GUINNESS HILL BEFORE THE MAGISTRATES AT RUGBY.



settlers and the timid but resentful natives; but those disputes would become less frequent if the local Governments generally acted in a more equitable and conciliatory manner, and upon some definite rules of conduct, instead of at one moment snubbing the immigrants and at the next sending horse, foot, and artillery to enforce their claims, however equivocal. Possibly, they might take more time for consideration if compelled to defray the charges incidental to the employment of the Imperial forces in their hostilities with indigenous tribes, and if also required to equip and send to the field a contingent in proportion to the population of the settlement. Not only in New Zealand, but also at the Cape frontier, "difficulties" are a chronic complaint, and at the present moment we are edified with descriptions of a tribe of Zulu Kaffirs, distinct from those with whom we have hitherto had unfriendly relations, but who are represented as also disposed to test the invincibility of the British arms.

Unhappily, it is not necessary to look to the antipodes, or to the Cape, or even to America, for the germs of discord. If the political quidnuncs be not utterly at fault, all Europe is undermined, and a single spark will suffice to hurl into the air the fragments of shattered kingdoms. The signal depends rather upon the conduct of William I. of Prussia than upon the will of Napoleon III. of France. So long as the Prussian Monarch is content to coquet alike with military despotism and constitutional Liberalism, the present dead-lock may be indefinitely prolonged; but the moment he makes his final election the dogs of war will be let loose. It will probably be an evil day for that false and wavering Power when "to battle there comes forth, the might of Denmark's Crown." That the Danish Government relies on the material and substantial aid of France is beyond all doubt; while that "disinterested" nation is only too eager for a pretext to realise the "idea" that the Rhine is its natural and strategical boundary to the eastward. The estrangement between Austria and Hungary, again, is rapidly reaching that point beyond which war is inevitable. Then will come Italy's opportunity, and Venetia may be emancipated by a battle fought elsewhere than on Italian soil. And all this in the middle of the nineteenth century of the Christian era, and after our modern prophets had assured us that the passions of past ages were allayed, and that war between civilised nations would henceforth be an anachronism and a moral impossibility. Amidst these turmoils and internecine preparations Old England proudly holds on the even tenor of her way—ruffled, indeed, by the eccentricities of her colonies, but not disposed to participate in the follies of her neighbours, provided they leave her in the unmolested enjoyment of the *Times* for threepence, and a bumper of burgundy for one penny more.

THE HILL-BURDETT ROMANCE.

RICHARD GUINNESS HILL has been removed in the custody of Mr. Superintendent Wild, of the Warwickshire constabulary, from the police-station at Rugby, where he has remained since he was first brought down from the Bow-lane station, Cheapside, London, by Brett, the detective officer, and conveyed to the county gaol at Warwick, where, unless bail be forthcoming, he will remain until the assizes. In the ordinary course of things the assizes would not be held until March next; but as there are several very important cases, including two or three murders, to be tried, it is generally believed that there will be a winter assize, which will probably be fixed about Christmas, and at which the case against Hill will of course be disposed of. The prisoner, who since his incarceration at Rugby has readily conformed to the regulations made by Mr. Wild, expressed no disinclination to leave his cell, seeming, on the contrary, to be gladdened at the prospect of a change of scene and the enjoyment, though brief, of the ride from Rugby to Warwick. The money found in the possession of the prisoner having been all expended, an intimation to that effect was conveyed to him, and he at once produced a £10 Bank of England note, which he requested Mr. Wild to change, in order to discharge any outstanding liabilities which had accrued since his imprisonment. As regards the question of bail, the Rugby magistrates acceded to an application made by Mr. Philbrick, the prisoner's counsel, that the commitment should be backed with the intimation that bail was to be accepted, and a certificate to that effect was ordered to be issued by the Bench. This will enable Mr. Philbrick to tender bail to any Warwickshire magistrate, whether he may be residing in London or elsewhere, and avoid the delay which would necessarily occur if it was imperative for the sureties to appear personally before the Bench by which the prisoner was committed. Should bail, therefore, be obtained in London, and accepted by one of the Warwickshire magistrates residing in, or on a visit to, the metropolis, intimation of the fact can be forwarded to the governor of Warwick Gaol, who will at once release his prisoner.

The prisoner is a little over thirty years of age. He is rather short in stature, has reddish hair, and wears a bushy moustache, but no whiskers. His face is hard and angular. Before the magistrates his demeanour was characterised by great coolness and composure. He listened attentively to the statements of the witnesses, joining in the laugh which occasionally rose from the audience, and when the child was brought in he examined it with a cold, sharp, critical eye.

The grave charges against Mrs. Hill which Mr. Philbrick shadowed forth in his address for the defence now form a general theme of conversation. There are several points, however, which cannot as yet be understood. The prisoner's wife is charged with unfaithfulness; but it is not sought to be denied that Mr. Hill accompanied her from Dublin with the view of allowing the confinement to take place in London; and that he continued to live with her after the child was taken from Rugby, and after she recovered her health. This is regarded as clear and distinct condonation, and no justification for supplying false particulars to the registrar concerning the child. The register, too, in point of law, speaks for itself. The signature, "R. Hill," is admitted to be that of the accused; and although the other baptismal names are omitted (not an uncommon occurrence, as asserted by Mr. Philbrick), Hill describes himself as "father" in the column of the register headed "Signature, description, and residence of informant," admitting thereby that he was one of its parents. Mr. Hill, it is said, asserts that he knew to a certainty, by the date of the child's birth, that it could not be his, and he therefore determined not to register it in his own name. He does not deny taking the child to London or giving it to the women; but says that when he went to the address given him a second time (which would be eighteen months ago), he could hear nothing of woman or child. This is probable enough, from the fact that he never had the Lincoln-court address—only "Lichfield-street," the address given by the "dark woman."

With respect to the child itself, we regret to say that its general condition is far from satisfactory. The result of neglect, starvation,

and ill-treatment is daily becoming more and more apparent. He was exhibited in Rugby on Wednesday afternoon by the young woman Catherine Parsons, and underwent a curious scrutiny on all hands. The leg which was broken is still bandaged; and the sores on his neck are far from healed. He must have had a rough time of it in the keeping of Mrs. Andrews. Mrs. Hill, with her child, the nurse, and Mr. Maltby, returned to London on the evening of the final examination. As soon as their presence on the platform became known a large concourse of people collected round the party. The latter were, to avoid the gaze of these, speedily placed in a first-class carriage. It is singular that when Mrs. Hill came into the court to be identified by the witness, Mrs. Jefferies (who had attended her in her confinement at the Globe Inn), she should have stood close behind her husband without recognising him. On her leaving the court for the ante-room, she asked Superintendent Wild in which part of the court Mr. Hill was placed, remarking that she had looked all round, but could not see him.

In many of the reports which have been published regarding this affair it has been stated that Mrs. Guinness Hill is a granddaughter of the late Sir Francis Burdett. This is incorrect. The lady is the daughter of the late Mr. Wm. Jones Burdett, the only brother of Sir Francis; and her mother, therefore, is not Lady Burdett. It is equally untrue that Mrs. Hill was adopted by Miss Burdett Coutts. The *Leeds Mercury* says:—Mrs. Hill possesses sufficient personal attraction to justify belief in the report that she has led captive many suitors. She was run away with when at boarding-school, and she was brought back by a well-known person, who, in his endeavours to rescue the lady from her gallant and enterprising admirer, received a lasting memento on the most prominent feature of his countenance. Mr. Hill entered a cause some months ago in the Divorce Court, and, should the issue be that he obtained a judicial separation from his wife, the two questions of the paternity and identity of the child would occupy the attention of the lawyers. Mrs. Hill was born at Twickenham in the year 1833, and her husband stated at his marriage in Brussels that he belonged to the parish of Blackrock, in Dublin. That there is some explanation in respect to this long-lost child which has not yet come before the public seems clear from the fact that the brother of Mrs. Hill—Lieut.-Colonel Burdett—offered himself as bail for the prisoner. The stories which have been told of Mr. Hill having come into England from Brussels disguised and in secret, are stated to have had their origin in the prolific imagination of the penny-a-liners of the metropolitan press. During the whole of the week preceding his arrest he was in London, and undisguised. His object in disguising himself with the black whiskers and moustache was not to prevent arrest, either for debt or perjury; but his friends and himself say, with a far more honourable and praiseworthy object, that of seeing his wife without her knowing him, in consequence of the determined and repeated refusals on her part to allow him to speak to her.

Our Illustrations speak for themselves, and, with the above particulars, and the details of the affair already published, will be as easily understood as they are interesting.

Foreign Intelligence.

FRANCE.

THE Emperor arrived in Paris and presided at a council of Ministers at St. Cloud on Tuesday. He will be at Compiègne to meet his Royal visitor or visitors on Sunday, the 6th.

The *Moniteur* of Wednesday contains an Imperial decree according to which the ports of Marseilles, Bordeaux, Nantes, Rouen, Havre, Dieppe, Boulogne, Calais, and Dunkirk, and the custom-houses of Tourcoing, Roubaix, Lille, Valenciennes, Mulhouse, and Lyons are, dating from the 1st inst., open for the importation of cotton and woollen yarns of every description, either of English or Belgian manufacture. By the same decree the following articles of English or Belgian origin or manufacture cannot be imported into France either by land or sea except through the custom-houses appointed. The articles referred to are:—All goods paying a duty of more than 20f. per 100 kilogrammes; also coaches and playing-cards; chicory, roasted or ground; cutlery, skin and leather work; articles made of horse or cow hair, pure or mixed; chemicals, ordinary soaps, drinking-glasses and crystals, white and coloured; window glass; coloured glass, polished or engraved; watch and optical glasses, and all other glass-ware not mentioned in this category; seagoing vessels, hulls of seagoing vessels, and river craft; alpaca, lama, and vicuña wool, and camels' hair yarn.

Father Lacordaire is dangerously ill at Sorreze. His friends in Paris expect to hear of his death every moment; the malady is called a "decomposition of the blood." M. de Montalembert, who was his school-fellow, has been sent for by telegraph to the bedside.

A good deal of attention has been bestowed in Paris upon an article in the *Debats* on the state of Europe generally, and in particular upon the relations of Prussia with France, England, and Italy. The *Debats* professes to know that the King of Prussia is not prepared to recognise the kingdom of Italy; and it insinuates that M. de Bernstorff, the Prussian Foreign Minister, who has just superseded M. de Schleinitz, leans rather to the French than the English alliance, without, however, having made up his mind. This article naturally provokes inquiry on the eve of the King of Prussia's visit to Compiègne.

The Paris Patrie says:—"The state of things in Mexico is becoming worse. The fall of Juarez is expected to take place shortly. Comonfort has re-entered Mexico on the northern frontier. The negotiations for an arrangement between France, England, and Spain, in reference to Mexico, have not been interrupted," as stated by a Madrid paper.

SPAIN.

The *Correspondencia* of Madrid announces that the negotiations relating to the affairs of Mexico have been interrupted, and details some of the measures which it states have been adopted by the Spanish Government. It says:—"Spain, whose interest in Mexico is greater than that of any other European Power, has not been able to come to an understanding with France and England as to the means to be employed to obtain satisfaction for the injuries of which it has to complain, and to extend to its subjects, who are murdered every day, an effective protection. Spain, consequently, intends to act alone in Mexico, as its interests and dignity require, without regard to what the English or French journals may say."

ITALY.

It is stated that the King will not return to Turin till the 12th instant, as he will visit various towns in Tuscany before he leaves that portion of his dominions. It is expected that his Majesty will go to Naples in January, and will commemorate the visit by a general amnesty.

General Della Rovere, the new Italian Minister of War, will, it is said, inaugurate his possession of office by amalgamating the armies of Northern and Southern Italy.

France having interposed her good offices to prevent a rupture between Italy and Spain, the Italian Government has suspended all further discussion in reference to the recall of its representative at Madrid. The proposal of France is that the archives of the Neapolitan consulates in Spain should be handed over to the agents of France, and by them transferred to the Italian Government. It is believed that Spain accepts this proposal.

A pamphlet by Father Passaglia, condemnatory of the temporal power of the Papacy, has appeared at Florence, and produced an immense sensation. The journals rejoice at the support thus afforded to the Italian cause by this eminent Italian theologian. The Abbé has been summoned to Rome to answer for his opinions, and has arrived there with a foreign passport.

Disturbances in consequence of the high price of provisions have

occurred at Bologna, Ravenna, and Lugo. Serious riots took place, and the military had to be called out. No evil consequences, however, ensued; and tranquillity was ultimately restored, several of the ringleaders having been arrested.

The Pope held a consistory at Rome on the 27th ult., when the following Prelates were elevated to the rank of Cardinal:—The Archbishops of Chambéry, Burgos, and Compostella; the Bishop of Viterbo, Bishop Quaglia, the Papal Nuncio, Mgr. Sacconi, and Father Panbianco. His Holiness has also held a secret consistory of Bishops, in which he created several new Prelates, and pronounced an allocation denouncing the enemies of the Church in the usual terms and on the oft-repeated grounds.

A man named Cesare Locatelli, a porter at the railway station, has been executed at Rome, for having, as alleged, killed a gendarme "from political motives." There was a great deficiency of evidence, the Judges recommending the prisoner to mercy on that ground, and the sister of Francis II. begging his life of the Pope on the occasion of her recent marriage; but all to no avail, the word "political" in the charge being quite sufficient to preclude all mercy. The man suffered with the utmost firmness, denying his guilt, and refusing the offices of the priests to the last. Since his execution the real murderer has confessed the crime, and entirely acquitted Locatelli. The motive for the severity of the Papal Government in this case is alleged to lie in the fact that the victim had long been noted for his liberal opinions, that he had served in the army of Garibaldi in defence of the Roman Republic, and was, for those reasons, specially obnoxious to the Roman police.

A protest against the occupation of Rome by the French has been signed in Venice with great enthusiasm.

The usual announcements continue to be made that brigandage in the Neapolitan provinces has been destroyed; but brigandage in that region seems to take a great deal of killing indeed. On Tuesday handbills were circulated in Naples bearing the words, "Italy to Rome with Garibaldi and Victor Emmanuel." No disturbance, however, took place. General Cialdini continues to insist on the public functionaries throughout the territory under his charge devoting themselves to the inauguration of an epoch "favourable to the free development of the strength of the nation." Fresh brigand expeditions are said to be in preparation at Civita Vecchia, Fiumicino, and Porto d'Anzo.

AUSTRIA.

The Austrian authorities have taken energetic and decided measures to prevent the reassembling of the Comitats of Pesth. The building in which the sittings were held was occupied on the 29th by soldiers, and any members of the Comitats who presented themselves were prevented from entering. The immediate consequence of this step has been that which was anticipated—the resignation of all the functionaries of the Comitats. The whole district embraced within the jurisdiction of the Comitats is thus left entirely without local administration. Count Karoly has returned unopened the order of the Government requesting him to remain in office. The seal of the Comitats has been deposited in the National Museum. The Austrian Government, who seem determined to bring matters to a crisis, have also given orders for the vigorous collection of the taxes by military execution.

The custom-house officers at Pesth having seized some smuggled tobacco, the informer, a woman, was furiously pursued by the people. The gendarmes and military who afterwards came up were received with hisses and derisive cries. The military made use of their arms, and several people were wounded. Numerous arrests have been made in consequence. Among the cries raised by the people who endeavoured to prevent the removal of the confiscated tobacco was "Eljen Garibaldi!" or "Long live Garibaldi!"

The Diet of Agram has definitively voted an address to the King, in which it maintains its first resolutions, hostile to the real union with Austria and the Council of the Empire. Of the thirty members chosen to the Diet of Istria, ten have formally declined to serve, and several more are believed to intend following a similar course.

The Committee on religious affairs of the Chamber of Deputies of Austria resolved, in its sitting of the 21st, to declare the political equality of all citizens, whatever their religion, and also their right to reside in all parts of the empire, to acquire real property, and to be admitted to public functions.

The Diet of Transylvania is to assemble at Karlsburg on Nov. 1.

Colonel Borowitzka, the Austrian Consul, having shown disrespect to the Prince of Serbia, at a ball, the whole body of Serbian officers have drawn lots, in order to decide which of their number should challenge the Consul to a duel.

PRUSSIA.

The *Prussian Monitor* publishes a Royal proclamation announcing that the King will remove his Court to Königsberg on the 13th of October, and that his coronation will take place there on the 18th, together with that of the Queen, in the church of the castle, in presence of the members of the two Chambers and of other witnesses invited for the occasion.

POLAND.

Bills have been posted up, and are privately circulated in Warsaw, containing an address to the Poles, Lithuanians, and Roumans, calling upon them to send deputations from all the towns and places of the former kingdom of Poland, as constituted in the year 1772, to a solemn meeting, to be held on the 10th of October, at Harallia, near Lublin.

According to news from Warsaw the Polish Bishops had addressed a memorandum to the Governor of Poland, demanding the re-establishment of the former rights of the Catholic Church in that country. The Governor, however, refused to accept it. The Bishops then met, and were addressed by the Archbishop, who, in his speech, said, "Let us always stand by the people and defend the cause of the Fatherland, and not forget that we are Poles."

RUSSIA.

The Russian journals contain the official notification that a committee has been appointed at Perna to superintend the demolition of the ramparts of the fortress, and the work is on the point of being commenced. The old fortifications of Riga and Revel have been given up by the Government to the civic authorities of these towns. The municipality of Riga immediately began to level the walls.

TURKEY AND MONTENEGRO.

The Porte has sent fresh instructions to Omer Pacha, ordering him immediately to recommence operations against the Montenegrins. The Porte is about to send a reinforcement of 2000 men to Omer Pacha. The insurgents have attacked Gatzkow, and have burnt three villages. They killed seventeen Turks, and carried away five pieces of artillery. Omer Pacha has marched against them. Symptoms of insubordination have appeared amongst the Turkish troops in the camp at Balcia on account of the nonpayment of the arrears due to them by Government. Omer Pacha, it is added, thereupon sent up the arrears. The Vienna papers state that the Montenegrins are beginning to lose heart, and have applied to Austria for aid. This intelligence, however, is not confirmed from any other source. Another statement, that the Montenegrins are to be aided by a Hungarian legion, under General Turr, is probably a mere piece of imagination, as it is not likely that the General would at the present time engage in any cause other than those of Hungary and Italy. The Pesth journals state that the Bosnians and Servians have declared themselves in favour of the Montenegrins.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

Sir George Grey left for New Zealand on the 15th of August. A disturbance among the Zulu Kaffirs about the succession to their Government had nearly involved the colony in a frontier war with the natives. The Zulus had planned an incursion on a large scale into Natal in order to seize two young Zulu chiefs who had

taken refuge there. Timely information, however, reached the colonial authorities, and the troops at Cape Town were at once sent up. This movement intimidated the natives, who now say that an inland was never intended.

Parliament was prorogued on the 14th of August. A proposed vote of £10,000 towards the support of the troops had been rejected by the Legislative Council. An indignation meeting had been held in consequence, at which resolutions were passed expressing the desire of the colony to make some contribution towards its defence.

AMERICA.

President Lincoln has requested General Fremont to modify the clause in his proclamation respecting the liberation of slaves, as it transcends the power given him by Congress. The reply of General Fremont was to the effect that the modification had better come from the President himself, who thereupon published a letter explaining his views, and accompanying it with the Act of Congress referred to. Rumours of the recall of General Fremont, or his appointment to an inferior command, were current, but with what degree of truth was not known.

A battle has been fought at Lexington, Missouri, in which General Price, who attacked Colonel Mulligan in his intrenchments, was defeated. The loss of the Confederates is represented to be 4000; that of the Federals 800 men. On the 18th of September General Price attacked the Federals with 30,000 men. The Federals numbered 3500. The Confederates were scattered by a bayonet charge of the Irish Brigade. The attack was renewed the following day. Meanwhile the Federals had been reinforced by 4000 men, and other reinforcements were rapidly approaching. The full details of this affair have not yet been received, and the telegrams respecting it are somewhat confused.

Six hundred Confederates have been routed, with heavy loss, at Blue Mills Landing, Missouri, by 1500 Federals.

The Federal intrenchments at Cheat Mountain have been attacked by General Lee, who was, however, repulsed with heavy loss.

It is reported that General Rosecrans is advancing against the Confederates, and that Generals Floyd and Wise are retreating.

The Governor of Kentucky has issued a proclamation, ordering the unconditional withdrawal of the Confederate troops from the State.

The *New York Herald* announces that numerous regiments encamped round New York, to the estimated number of 6000 men, have quitted their camps under secret instructions, and embarked on transports. They are, it is stated, destined for the naval expedition fitting out against the Southern coasts.

A deserter from the Confederates at Munson's Hill reports that Generals Beauregard and Johnston were there, and states that the main body of the Confederate troops, comprising about 100,000 men, are at Fairfax and Centerville, which points, according to the same authority, had been visited by President Jefferson Davis, when he reviewed the troops in person.

It is reported that 11,000 Confederates have taken possession of Mayfield, Kentucky, and are fortifying it.

The Maryland Secession Legislature has been suppressed by the Federal Government.

An accident has occurred to a train on the Ohio and Mississippi Railway, caused by the breaking of a bridge. The train was filled with soldiers, a large number of whom were killed and wounded. The latest accounts say:—"Four passenger-cars went into the creek, and one baggage-car on top of them. These cars contained 250 men. Up to this time thirty dead had been taken out, and more are under the wreck. A train is now on its way with ninety-two wounded. It is believed at the wreck that forty or fifty were killed. Indications are strong that the bridge was tampered with by traitors. The bridge was sixty feet span and ten feet high, and was lately inspected."

The *New York Times* says that the British Government will hereafter communicate with its Consuls at the seceded ports by means of the British war-vessels.

Unconfirmed rumours from Washington state that the European Powers refuse the offer of the Federal Government to accept the proposition made by the Paris Conference in regard to privateering.

Southern accounts report that General Johnston had largely increased his force along the line of the Potomac. John Ross, chief of the Cherokee Indians, had given in his adhesion to the Confederate cause. The *Richmond Examiner* asserts that the Potomac was effectually blockaded and closed by powerful batteries. It is asserted that a challenge to battle had been offered for some time past by General Beauregard to General McClellan, but had not been accepted. The same journal says no "direct attack is at present designed on the works at Washington, at least not on the southern side." The Confederate lines were reported to extend from Occoquan to Leesburg, and that "the fire of pickets may be heard from regiment to regiment along the entire extent." Field batteries had been called for by, and supplied to, the Confederate troops very recently. Jefferson Davis was reported on the 9th ult. "so far recovered from his recent severe attack of illness as to have been enabled to take an airing in his carriage." The Hon. L. P. Walker, the Confederate Secretary of War, had resigned in consequence of ill-health. All the banks of New Orleans suspended specie payment on the 16th.

General Floyd, according to a bulletin of the *Richmond Examiner*, in the engagement on the 10th, routed the enemy, killing 630, wounding 1000, and taking some prisoners. The Confederate loss was one killed and eight wounded.

THE NEW GOLDFIELDS IN NOVA SCOTIA.

LATE advices from Nova Scotia bring further details of the recent gold discoveries in that province. Mr. Joseph Howe, Provincial Secretary, has presented a report to the Governor, Lord Mulgrave, which encourages very favourable anticipations. The existence of gold in Nova Scotia was unsuspected till 1860, when some particles were found, and caused an excitement which proved but temporary, the quantities being unremunerative. In March last, however, a man stooping to drink at a brook in the neighbourhood of the Tangier River saw a piece of gold shining among the pebbles, and, searching, found more. The locality, which is forty miles eastward of Halifax, was most favourable for mining operations, being within half a mile of navigation, and surrounded by a hilly fishing population, and gradually numerous parties were attracted to it. Two months after the Governor visited the spot, and ascertained, among other facts, that a couple of men had just obtained from an excavation 4ft. square and 5ft. deep £15, at an expenditure of labour which might be estimated at about £1 5s. As this was not derived from the chance discovery of a nugget, but from crushing the quartz, veins of which are supposed to run for miles along the coast, it was naturally inferred that there must be profitable employment in the district for a numerous population. Official measures were therefore taken to give such facilities as might be required. Lots of 50ft. by 20ft. were laid off by the Government surveyor at £1 each, the money thus received being applied to the purposes of drainage, and of making a road to the shore. From that time confidence in the resources of the mines has steadily increased, and the numbers at work there all the summer have ranged between 400 and 800. The total of small lots taken up is about ninety-five, for which £175 has been paid. The quantity of gold obtained cannot be estimated, as no royalty is exacted, but, judging from the sums brought to Halifax, it is believed to have been large, although none but the most simple processes have yet been used. The lowest depth yet reached is forty-five feet, and the largest nugget found is valued at £60. Throughout the whole of the proceedings the population have manifested the utmost order, honesty, and good feeling. Discoveries have also been made at a place called Lunenburg Harbour, about sixty miles to the westward of Halifax. Quartz veins are here abundant in the cliffs, and it has been found that wherever these cliffs have been washed and crumbled by the sea the surrounding sands are rich. Companies are preparing for systematic operations, and meanwhile many individuals have been successful. The facilities of this place, likewise, are excellent, as it is perfectly accessible by water, and quartz can be shipped with ease. Other deposits have since been observed at localities called Dartmouth, Street Harbour, Lawrence town, and Lake Thomas; and, indeed, quartz rock is found all along the southern coast, and running for miles back into the interior.

THE SIAMER AMBASSADORS have left France on their return to their own country via Alexandria and Suez.

ITALY AND THE ITALIANS.

M. MAZZINI AND THE WORKING MEN OF NAPLES.

MAZZINI has addressed a letter to the operatives of Naples, in which he says:—

A son of the people, convinced by my ancient faith and by my recent observations that the salvation of Italy resides in the people, in their rational instincts, in the power of their disinterested sacrifices, in the spontaneity by which thought and action are united in their person—in fine, in their irresistible force when a uniform organisation places them in a position to manifest it—I find in every fraternal greeting which comes from the people full satisfaction for the shabby attacks of mistrust and calumny made on me by men to whom we have yielded for the last two years, and still yield, through love of our country and of concord, the fruits of our labour.

But I experience a very different joy—a joy which is not personal, but purely Italian—in reading your address, in which I perceive that you comprehend the grandeur of the mission of men of labour, and that you do not fall into the error of other corporations of Italian operatives who separate the national political object from their purely economical interests.

We have all a great duty to fulfil towards the operative classes in Italy. The national revolution which is in course of accomplishment will introduce important ameliorations in their material condition, or it will fail in its mission. But these improvements cannot be produced except by the entire nation, secured against every foreign attack, constituted in the unity of its territory, and united by its representatives in its own metropolis at Rome, to study there with tranquillity and liberty the requirements of the country, and to dedicate the new national pact which will give full satisfaction to all. Venice and Rome—there is the future—there is the emancipation of the people. Completely free between our Alps and our seas, we may devote, and we will devote, the entire life of our soul and of our heart to resolve questions of interior liberty and of social organisation implied by the acknowledgment of your right to continuous labour better paid than it is at present, and independent of the speculation of a few men and the will of capital which is not in your hands. Association, developed on a vast scale, and aided by the credit of the nation, will heal your wounds.

But in order that that may be accomplished the nation must be constituted. And, in order that the operative classes may have a right to the assistance of the nation, it is necessary that they show themselves ready to accomplish their duty towards it. He who does not perform his duty possesses no rights. May all your brothers comprehend this truth as you yourselves prove that you do! Unite by your letters with the delegates of all the operative corporations throughout Italy who have hitherto participated in your belief. Instruct one another by your example. Endeavour constantly to improve yourselves, morally, intellectually, and economically.

Operatives, show yourselves to be Italian citizens! Let each of you give his signature for Rome—his frame or his centime for Venice. Let each of you insist on all doing as much. Venice and Rome must be conquered by the people. When you shall have proved that you are conscious of what is Italian right, and of the firm will to obtain it—chiefs, and the first of all the men whose name you pronounce with so much affection, and who is waiting in his solitude at Capri, will not fail you.

The *Patrie* publishes in its private correspondence from Florence details of a Mazzinian expedition into the Roman States. They started from Genoa in the tartane Madonna di Buon Soccorso to the number of a hundred, and were captured by the Customs Guard the moment they disembarked at Portigliora, opposite the Island of Elba. Papers found on board and arms and ammunition show that a descent was meditated on the Papal territory.

AN ENGLISHMAN'S OPINION ON NEAPOLITAN BRIGANDAGE.

A letter, of which the following is an extract, has been received from an Englishman of influence long resident in the kingdom of Naples. It is dated Torre Annunziata, Sept. 9, the day after that on which the anniversary of Garibaldi's entry into Naples was celebrated:—

So you see we are still here safe and well, notwithstanding all the direful stories of brigands, revolution, and civil war. Persons afar off see things in a different light from those who are near. How often I have heard people say to me what a dreadful thing it is to live on a mountain that vomits fire, and may at any moment swallow you up. It may be so; but one thing is quite certain, it never gives us a single moment of uneasiness, and we are equally or nearly equally careless about brigands. They are gradually dying out, but they are not yet extinct. In our immediate neighbourhood we have only six, who are well known, and would be shot down if he could get a sight of them; but living as they do in the woods and caves of the mountain, not moving by day, and never sleeping twice in the same spot, it is exceedingly difficult to hunt them, not to say dangerous, as they are well armed and good shots. However, there are among our National Guard those who are delighted to turn out when they fancy they are on the trace. Further off, at a distance of twelve miles, there are still the remains of a formidable band, but they dare not quit their lurking places and descend in the plain, or they would be surrounded by the soldiers and National Guard, and either shot down or made prisoners. Their plan is, when they see the road clear, to pounce down on some unfortunate proprietor, carry him off to their mountain fastness, and put his life at a ransom. Last night they got hold of one, and this morning I hear they want 4000 ducats, about £650. They will probably be satisfied with less than half, but £200 or £300 he will have to pay certainly. This game will last more or less so long as the weather continues fine and there is fruit in the country, but the moment the bad weather sets in they must give themselves up. Four days ago seventy-three prisoners (brigands) passed through here on their way to Naples. I examined them one by one; they were all disarmed soldiers, very much sunburnt, very badly off for clothes and shoes, but not apparently in bad health, except one, who I think was dying. Yesterday and the day before have been two national festivals, which went off exceedingly well, and without any disturbance. Notwithstanding the threats and boasts of the clerico-Bourbons, there was the usual display of flags, music, fireworks, national songs, with the beautiful hymn of Garibaldi repeated in every street at all hours of the day and night. The patriotic General is as popular as ever. I have heard the lower classes say repeatedly that it was a pity he was not made King. The enthusiasm of Saturday (anniversary of his entry into Naples) is a proof that he has lost none of his hold on the affections of the Neapolitans, high and low: all look upon him as their saviour.

A TROPHY FROM PEKIN.—Among the booty taken by French soldiers at Peking was a valuable and curious work of art—viz., a figure of a camel in solid silver, nearly twenty inches high, bearing on its back a clock, and its hump being decorated with rubies, emeralds, and other precious stones. The statuette, on which the word "London" is engraved, is in the possession of a non-commissioned officer of the 101st Regiment, who, it is stated, has refused 70,000fr. for it.

THE BOURBONISTS IN CALABRIA.—The Legitimist journals of Paris publish three documents, emanating from General Borge, chief of the Royalist band which disembarked in the night of the 13th ult. near Bruzzano, in Calabria. The first is "a proclamation to the Calabrians"; the second, a circular to the Syndics of towns and villages, charging them to transmit to the soldiers of the late Royal army the order to rejoin their regiments; and the third, a letter to the Piedmontese General who commands in the province, adjuring him to "make war as becomes a soldier and a civilised man." In this Borge declares that, after a delay of six days, he will, whether he receives a reply or not, regulate his conduct by that of the enemy. "And, consequently," he adds, "if you shoot the soldiers of national independence and of the King, I will shoot your men taken prisoners, and I will cast on you the responsibility of the blood which to my great regret you will force me to shed." These proclamations were dated from the "head-quarters of the army of independence," which army consisted at first of about thirty men, was afterwards swelled by recruits to about 130, and, finally, on being attacked by some Italian troops, was scattered and destroyed, and General Borge and the remnant of his followers escaped into the forests. And so ended the great army of independence, with which its commander threatened to do such terrible things.

A VOLUNTEER FIRE BRIGADE.—A good example has just been set by the city of Coventry in the formation of a volunteer fire brigade, which consists of about sixty gentlemen residing in the city, many of whom are members of the volunteer rifle corps. They have placed themselves under the command of Mr. Thomas Stierner, the chief constable, who has had much experience in Liverpool in connection with fires, and have elected six lieutenants, an honorary secretary, an honorary treasurer, and an acting committee of eight members. Each volunteer is required, by the code of regulations that have been agreed to, to provide his own uniform, to meet for drill once a month, and to pay a small subscription monthly towards the expense of the movement. The idea of forming a volunteer fire brigade arose from the fact that the police, who had hitherto acted also as the fire brigade, had found the extra duty, and the continual drill which it was necessary to undergo in order to be efficient, to interfere very much with the performance of their regular duties. The volunteers were called out to their first fire last week, and, as the horses were not ready, they dragged the engine after them to the scene of action. On their arrival there they at once set to work with all the coolness and readiness of practised firemen, and in very soon got the mastery of the flames.

IRELAND.

DESTRUCTIVE FLOOD.—A most destructive flood swept through Tralee on Friday evening week, doing vast damage to property. In some streets the inhabitants were compelled to seek refuge in the upper part of their houses, the water having reached the second stories. Several narrow escapes to life have been reported. The Earl of Erne has remitted over £2000 of the rent receivable from his tenantry because of the damage done by the floods at Fermanagh. The Earl of Enniskillen, the Archbishops, and several other landlords whose estates are washed by Lough Erne and its tributaries have deputed competent and trustworthy men to value or appraise the damage done by floods, with the intention of indemnifying their suffering tenantry.

RIBBON OUTRAGES.—Happily for Ireland, murders and faction fights are now of much rarer occurrence than they were wont to be. Two such outrages, however, happened last week. The house of a comfortable farmer, named Purtil, residing at Tough, Limerick, was attacked by an armed party of eight men, who forced an entrance, assaulted the inmates of the house, broke the lower windows, and carried off a gun and powder-horns. None of Purtil's family can identify any of the party, who all had their faces blackened. A young man has been found brutally murdered in Louth. His body was dreadfully mutilated. Both his legs were broken, and several of his teeth knocked out. He had been warned to leave his situation by some persons who are supposed to be members of the Ribbon Society, but he neglected to notice their intimation or the threats by which it was accompanied.

ATTEMPT TO BURN BELFAST BARRACKS.—A private soldier of the 49th Regiment of Foot has been committed for trial by the resident magistrate at Belfast, Mr. Treacy, for attempting to set fire to the barracks in that town. While a patient in the hospital he collected a quantity of bedding, which he set on fire; but before much damage was done it was discovered and extinguished.

TREATMENT OF CATHOLICS IN THE DUBLIN WORKHOUSE.—The Very Rev. Dr. Spratt, a Roman Catholic clergyman, has published a correspondence between him and the Chief Secretary, in which he makes strong complaints about the ill-treatment of young female paupers in the South Dublin Union, which leads to insubordination among the inmates. He alleges that religious bigotry among the guardians has something to do with their harsh treatment, and that "the opposition to these poor fatherless children became actually envenomed because their claim was taken up and urged by Catholic clergymen." Similar charges have been often made in reference to the management of this workhouse, and as often denied.

SCOTLAND.

CULPABLE HOMICIDE.—At the Glasgow Autumn Circuit Court, last week, Alexander Laird, manager of New Sheep Mount Colliery, was convicted of culpable homicide in neglecting to adopt due precautions to prevent the flooding of that pit, which occurred on July 16, and by which two workmen lost their lives. The prisoner was sentenced to four months' imprisonment, the Lord Justice Clerk, in passing sentence, saying he restricted the punishment to that period because he believed the prisoner had only been guilty of thoughtlessness, and not of wilful neglect.

THE COTTON TRADE IN GLASGOW.—Short time is now pretty general in the spinning and weaving factories of Glasgow, and some Paisley houses have also put their hands on forty hours a week. In eight or nine spinning-mills in Johnstone intimation of commencing short time in a fortnight has been given. The handloom-weaving trade is likewise very dull, and a good many hands are unemployed. As this state of matters will probably increase, rather than decrease, during the approaching winter, very gloomy prospects are in store for the labouring classes. The cause of the short-time work in Scotland is, of course, the same that has led to the like result in the Lancashire factories—the deficient supply of cotton.

A FOOLISH ACTION.—Last week a young man named Peter Alexander Maxwell, a member of the 3rd Roxburghshire Rifle Corps, returning home from practising ball-shooting, met at the west end of the town of Melrose Isabella Rutherford, a young woman, to whom he playfully raised his musket and drew the trigger, not thinking the weapon was loaded. The ball entered the poor girl's mouth, shattered some of her teeth, and passed through the cheek below the ear. Maxwell, on discovering what he had done, rendered all the assistance he could till medical assistance arrived, when he went and gave himself up to Sergeant Oliver, the local police officer, who, on the following day, took him to Jedburgh. When he presented himself to Sergeant Oliver at Melrose he wept most bitterly, and expressed a wish that the contents of the musket had rather lodged in his own head. The young woman is not believed to be dangerously injured. Maxwell has hitherto borne an irreproachable character.

THE PROVINCES.

WISEBACH.—It is now several years since our river presented so animated an appearance as during the past week. Every day there have been arrivals of ships from foreign ports laden with timber; and at the time we write the harbour appears to be quite full of vessels. It is next to impossible to find a labourer unemployed, and some of the ships cannot at present be unloaded, owing to the scarcity of porters. An immense quantity of wheat has this week been shipped for France, and some ships of nearly four hundred tons burden have been taken up for the same purpose, and are now loading. This is a pleasant state of things, which we hope will continue.—*Cambridge Independent.*

FATAL COLLIERY EXPLOSION.—An explosion took place last week at the South Mostyn Colliery, near Holywell, by which it is believed ten lives have been lost. It is supposed that the explosion took place through a fan which was lately erected on the surface for ventilating the pit. At the time of the accident, five o'clock in the morning, the night men only were in the shaft, and from all appearance were on the eve of finishing their work and coming up on the surface. The explosion was heard at a considerable distance from the colliery, and in the immediate neighbourhood the shock was particularly perceptible. The bodies of several victims have been extricated, but at the last accounts there were still three or four more supposed to be in the pit. No disfigurement or mark of burning was seen on the bodies; they appeared as if they slept, and it is thought, therefore, that they were suffocated by the damp. This calamity will probably leave seven widows and twenty-seven orphans in great distress. The scene at the pit was very heartrending—mothers and children lamenting those found, and others in intense anxiety respecting the fate of those still undiscovered. The most laudable exertions are being made, by subscription and other means, towards ameliorating the state of the distressed relatives.

MURDER.—Mr. John Bagott, tailor and clothier, at Bilston, was murdered in his own house the other morning. Robbery seems to have been the motive of the perpetrators of the crime, as the premises had been broken into and ransacked in all directions. It was generally believed that Mr. Bagott had considerable sums of money concealed about his house, he being of somewhat eccentric habits, and of this the burglars appear to have been aware, as the bed-tick was tipped up, the stone flags of the floor lifted, and a cashbox broken open and rifled. What amount of plunder the murderers secured is not known, but they overlooked a £5 note in one division of the cashbox. An investigation is being made into the affair, and a coroner's jury have returned a verdict of "Wilful murder" against the perpetrators of the crime, whoever they may be. Several men have been apprehended on suspicion and examined before the magistrates.—On Sunday afternoon, about four o'clock, a woman named Ann Walker, whose husband, it is said, lives in Manchester, was murdered in a respectable house in Birmingham by a man named John Thomson, with whom she cohabited. He cut her head nearly off with a pocket-knife, and death was immediate. Thomson is in custody. Drunkenness on the part of one or both of the parties appears to have been the cause of the crime. The woman bore a very questionable character.—On Tuesday morning Mr. Mark Frater, tax-collector, in Newcastle-on-Tyne, was murdered as he was entering his office door, by a man named Clark, upon whom he had distrained for unpaid dog tax. The murderer was instantly secured.—On Monday a pointsman on the North Stafford Railway was attacked and murdered by some men whom he found walking on the line, and whom he warned off, as they were committing a trespass by using the line as a public road. The unfortunate man has left a wife and five children.

REFORM IN THE CHURCH.—The Bishops of London and Rochester have commenced a movement which, if not exaggerated, will be beneficial. The English clergy are taught most things except English, and can do most things except read. The Bishops accordingly will compel all candidates to read and preach before them as part of the ordination test, and, as bad reading is generally the result of slovenliness, and a Bishop's eye is a strong hint not to be slowly, the order is unexceptionable.

THE POPE AND THE AMBASSADOR.—An interview was recently granted by the Pope to the Duke de Gramont on the subject of an order given to a Signor Venturini, a Sicilian, naturalised in France, to leave Rome within a fortnight. "Holy Father," said the Duke, "I must trouble myself about the matter, for not only is Signor Venturini a French subject, but he has even been specially recommended to me by a letter from the private cabinet of the Emperor." "I am really very sorry for it," replied the Pope; "but, *causa nobis nota*, Signor Venturini must leave." "But"—"There is no 'but' in the matter." "I pray you, Holy Father, to consider that I shall be obliged to make a report on the subject to my Government." "By all means make your report." "And that I shall be compelled to demand a large sum as a compensation for Signor Venturini." "Demand it, by all means." "And that the Government of your Holiness will be obliged to pay it." "That remains to be seen."

CAPTURE OF FORT HATTERAS BY THE FEDERALISTS.

It was only three months ago that the Confederate troops erected batteries at Hatteras Inlet, situated some fifteen miles south of Cape Hatteras, in Raleigh Bay. There were two of these, one of which was called Fort Clarke and the other Fort Hatteras; and that they were placed in an important situation may be inferred from the fact that the inlet commands both Pamlico Sound and Albemarle Sound, which communicate with Norfolk, Gosport, and Elizabeth, in Virginia, and all parts of North Carolina. This then became the harbour for the Confederate privateers, which have lately been committing such depredations in the cause of the Southern rebellion. The recent Federal expedition against these forts consisted of the frigates Minnesota, Wabash, and Cumberland; the gun-boats Pawnee, Monticello, and Harriet Lane; and the transports Adelaide and George Peabody. The latter contained a body of 500 of the 20th New York Volunteers, commanded by Colonel Weber; Captain Jardine's company of the 9th Regiment of New York Volunteers; and 100 of the Union Coast Guard, commanded by Captain Nixon; and 60 of the Second United States' Artillery, commanded by Lieutenant Larned; the whole forming a force to unite with the fleet under command of flag-officer Stringham. Having arrived at their destination at the mouth of Hatteras Inlet on the 28th of August, on the 29th the transports ran on to the beach, protected by the three gun-boats, and landed about 300 of the men through a heavy surf. These consisted of the regular artillery, two companies of the 20th, the company of the 9th New York, and detachments of marines and sailors.

The beach, as well as the neighbouring cove, was then swept by the gun-boats, and, all the boats being swamped, no more men could be landed. Meanwhile, the Minnesota and the Wabash, with the Cumberland in tow, steamed up in front of one of the batteries, and took a position at long range.

The first gun was fired by the Wabash, an 11-inch shell bursting near the battery, which instantly returned fire with one of its five long 32-pounders—the shot, however, fell short. This was the signal for the Minnesota and Cumberland to commence sending 9 and 11 inch shells about it until, in an hour afterwards, the Secession flag fell. Still later, the Susquehanna steamed in and silenced the rebel battery. The troops on shore then rushed in and raised the stars and stripes.

During this time the Monticello had steamed on and reached the inlet where Fort Hatteras stood to the rear, and on the right hand of Fort Clarke. This battery, which is of an octagonal shape, opened fire. On the next morning the entire fleet commenced bombarding this fort, and in a short time the effect of their fire was too great for the Secessionists to withstand, so they wisely hoisted the white flag, and after endeavouring to secure a negotiation for the officers to leave with their side arms and the men to return home—advances which General Butler, of course, refused—surrendered at discretion. General Butler then landed and took possession of the fort.

The Federalists captured 1000 stand of arms, 35 heavy guns, and a large quantity of stores, together with a brig loaded with cotton, and four boats. Amongst the prisoners, of whom about 700 were taken, are—

Commodore Samuel Barron, late Captain United States' Navy, Assistant Secretary of the Confederate Navy.
Colonel Bradford, Chief of Ordnance.
Colonel Martin, 7th North Carolina Volunteers.
Lieutenant Colonel Johnston, 7th North Carolina Volunteers.
Major Henry A. Gillman, 7th North Carolina Volunteers.
Major Andrews, Artillery, late United States Army.
Lieutenant Sharp, late United States Army.

During the action a large steamer, with considerable reinforcements, was observed coming down the Sound, but these were prevented landing by Colonel Weber, who, getting some cannon into position, commenced firing on her. She therefore put back without accomplishing her object. It is said that 400 men were landed the night before the attack on the fort.

To Major-General Butler, whose Portrait we engrave belongs the



MAJOR-GENERAL BUTLER, COMMANDEE OF THE LAND FORCES SENT AGAINST FORT HATTERAS.

credit of being associated with this first undoubted success of the Federal arms since the battle of Bull Run. The General, who has been exceedingly popular, and was the subject of considerable enthusiasm at New York, will doubtless gain still further credit from the rapid and well-ordered conquest of such an important point as the fort lately captured.

MANŒUVRES OF THE FEDERAL SWISS ARMY IN THE ALPS.

THE Swiss are sparing neither expense nor trouble in order to give their troops all the theoretical as well as practical instruction which can be serviceable to a militia army.

Favoured by the federal concentration, the result of the reorganization of 1848, as well as by the patriotism and military spirit of the

country, the Confederation are continually strengthening themselves in their true European position—that of an armed neutrality.

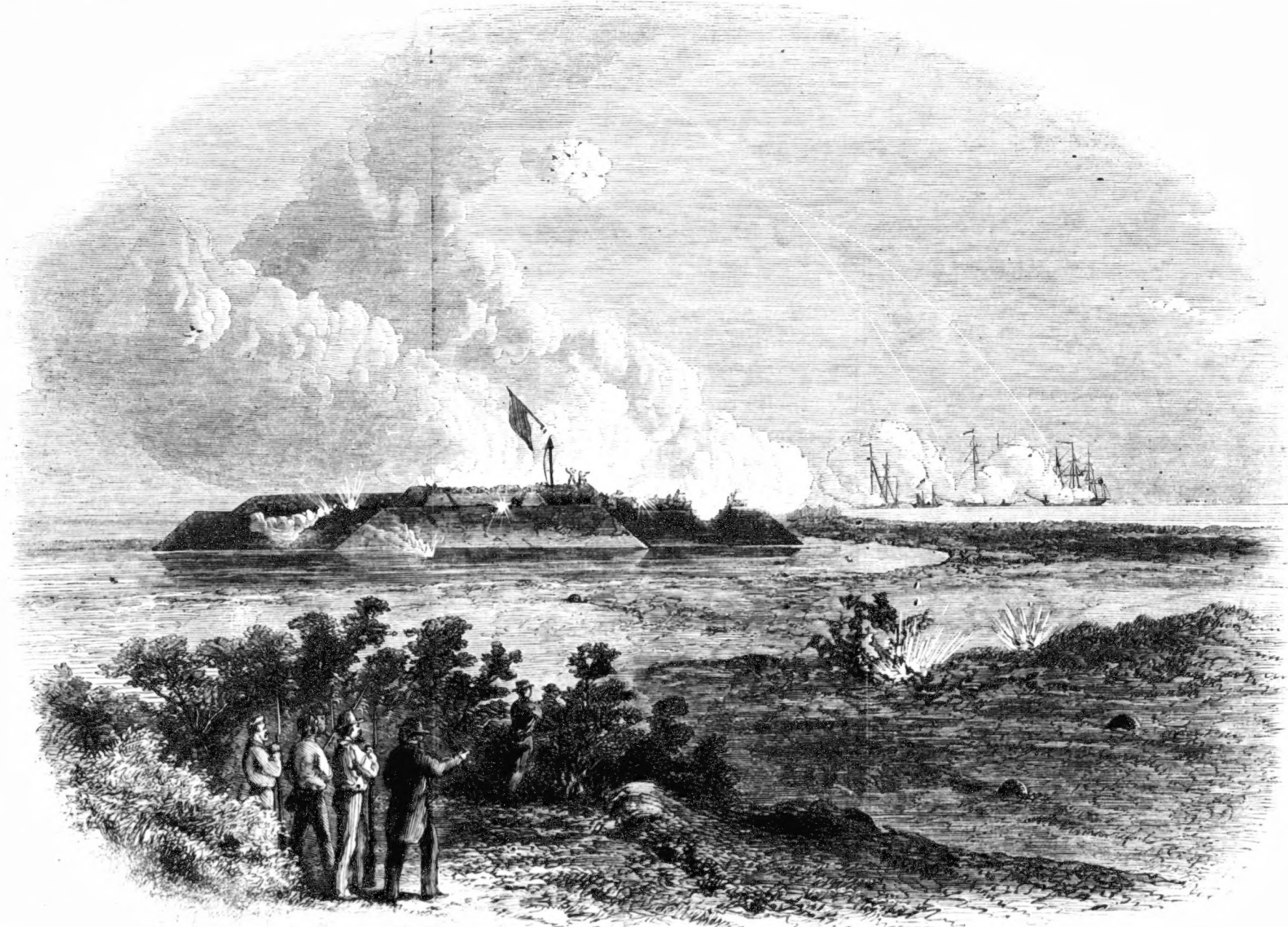
This year the manœuvres and reassembling of the troops take place upon the theatre of the war immortalised by Lecourbe and Suwaroff, and have in consequence a peculiar interest. The exigencies of mountain warfare have been displayed in all their rude conditions except that of the actual fire of a real enemy: combined marches, the passage with artillery through difficult passes and over Alpine heights have sufficed to put to the proof the endurance of both men and horses in a simulation of a war in which the Swiss would fight upon their own soil. To the various foreign officers who attended the campaign as visitors the improvements made in the art of mountain warfare during the last half century offered an interesting study. Rifles, carbines, mountain artillery, and the various improvements in the ambulance, and arrangements for a bivouac in such a region, all gave evidence of careful selection and experience.

The difficulties of transport in those regions without resources had the effect of reducing the effective force to 4000 men, who were under the orders of the Federal Colonel Aubert, an old pupil of General Dufour of the Polytechnique, and an officer well calculated to bring all the necessary energy to the instruction of the Federal army.

The strategic arrangements were simple enough. The enemy, after having ascended, like Suwaroff, the Levantine valley, and occupied the pass of St. Gothard, pushed their advanced posts as far as the shores of the lake of the Four Cantons. The Commander-in-Chief of the Swiss forces disembarked at Fluelen with the main division. Like Lecourbe, he encouraged an attack from the front by the combined advance of five detachments, who were all to come at a fixed time upon the flanks of the enemy in the valleys of Urseren and Reuss, after having crossed the snows of the Fourka, Surinen, Klausen, and the ravines, almost as elevated, of Susten and Schönergr. The second day after the debarkation, the bivouac at Wasen forced the enemy to a precipitate retreat upon the valley of Urseren by the Schöllenen, by the combined attack of those detachments, only one company of carbineers figuring as the enemy. A quantity of brambles upon a bridge indicated a barricade; and a truss of straw at the end of a pole, a bridge destroyed. This gave occasion for the men, in fifty-five minutes, to throw across the precipices of the Reuss a bridge of sufficient strength and solidity to permit the passage of mules and artillery.

The next day was devoted to an interesting experiment. The enemy in the strong positions of the Schöllenen were represented by objects disposed upon several plains at various heights and distances. The troops supplied with ball-cartridges and the ammunition for their rifles, carbines, and artillery, were then made to judge how they would carry upon a scale and in a territory well calculated for such instruction. The whole division was then reunited at the same bivouac in the valley of Urseren, at the foot of St. Gothard. The second part of the manœuvres exhibited a new operation. The division being formed into two brigades, one of them, after having pursued the enemy as far as Airolo, was taken across the snow at Nufenen, and formed a junction with the other brigade in the Haut Valais, which had descended the heights of the Fourka. A new enemy, already master of the greater part of the valley of the Rhône, decided them upon a forced march upon Brigg. The attack and defence of several positions then terminated the manœuvres at Sion, where the troops were freed from duty.

The strength of the mountain artillery, even in places believed to be impassable, was something extraordinary, while the men trod the dizzy heights with the agility of mountaineers. Not a single accident of any importance was reported, and the proportion of sickness was but 1 in 600, while ordinarily it is from 2 to 2½ in 100 at the annual assemblies of troops in the valleys and lower plains.



BOMBARDMENT OF FORT HATTERAS, NORTH CAROLINA.



EVOLUTIONS OF SWISS TROOPS IN THE ALPS.—THE ATTACK ON ZWINGG-THI AND AMSTEG.

THE OUTRAGE ON THE BRITISH LEGATION IN JAPAN.

THE British Legation, embracing Mr. Rutherford Alcock, the Plenipotentiary, Mr. L. Oliphant, Secretary of Legation, Mr. G. S. Morrison, Consul at Nagasaki, and other gentlemen, reached Yeddo on the 14th of July. During the night—the party had retired early in consequence of the fatigues endured on the journey—an attack was made upon the house where they had taken up their residence by a party of Japanese who had passed the evening at a teahouse in the vicinity. The members of the Legation were all sound asleep when a furious attempt was made to break open the door of their residence, by which they were partially aroused. While this was going on, one of the Chinese servants saw the screen of a room slide open, and a man in complete armour, with a sword in his hand, come forward. He did not wait to see more, but with great presence of mind crept on (in the direction the assassin must proceed) to arouse his master. The man turning into a side room afforded him a few moments' start, which were invaluable. He handed sword and pistol to his master, who at the same moment heard Mr. Oliphant, in the passage, calling for assistance. Mr. Oliphant, it seems, occupied a more distant room, and, on hearing the noise of what he thought was a brawl, ran in the direction, armed only with a heavy hunting-whip. In the passage he ran against the two foremost assailants, and must have then immediately received a wound (which is on the right shoulder). Taken in every way at a disadvantage—for, ignorant that an attack was being made, had he been armed and seen them approaching he would have known no reason for firing upon them until they had attacked him—he bravely kept them at bay with his heavy whip; they being protected by the darkness behind them, he exposed by the light of a lamp which they had not yet reached, for they extinguished every light as they approached. Hearing the call of Mr. Oliphant, Mr. Morrison drew aside his screen and found himself beside the parties, striking and cutting at each other (Mr. Russell and Mr. Wigram were approaching, but quite unarmed). He fired at both the assailants—one being seen to fall back mortally wounded in the breast, his body being afterwards found; but the other, protected by his armour, was unhurt, and succeeded in again wounding Mr. Oliphant on the left wrist and Mr. Morrison on the head. Cuts upon the posts and transverse beams of the passage showed marks of blows which had missed them, and the protection they had received from the smallness of the space. Sensible of having been wounded (independent of any pain, for in the excitement of conflict pain is not usually felt), and knowing "out of court," the usual nature of a Japanese sword-cut, the sensations of these gentlemen cannot have been agreeable. The darkness, intensified by the flashes from the pistol, rendered it difficult for the assailed to see their enemies or the effect upon them; but it is certain that, after the retaliation blows, intended to be avenging blows, were struck, the latter retreated by a side passage, leaving drops of blood and bloody finger marks upon their track. They kicked down a screen of the room from which they were fired upon, and in which there was a lamp burning, evidently to lighten their way down the passage, and, passing another bedroom, one of them must have entered it. A book on the table was cut half through, the mosquito curtains were cut across as with a razor, and a pine bedpost, two inches thick, was broken by a blow which cut an inch deep into it. The mattress was also thrust through in a most malicious manner. By this time, which must have passed quicker than the narration, the six occupants of the building were assembled in the verandah beyond the drawing-room, entirely ignorant of the numbers of their assailants, or the direction in which they would come, anticipating only a final struggle and immediate slaughter. Of the six, one was completely disabled, and amongst the rest were only two revolvers and two or three swords, one a dress sword, not a bad weapon for a single encounter, but less serviceable against a rush of heavily-armed foes. The Japanese guard attacked the assassins as they were escaping, and five of the latter were killed. On entering the grounds the assassins cut down two gatekeepers, and, passing through the kitchens, demanded of a native servant "where these foreigners were to be found;" and, on his denying any knowledge, they wounded him mortally with their swords. One of the priests likewise was cut down, but was not killed. The bodies of the slain assassins remained where they fell, laid low by tremendous gashes of the nature which it was their intention to have inflicted on our countrymen. Besides mangled arms and other wounds, the mortal blow seemed generally at the back of the head, through skull and jaws and tongue to the teeth—horrible to look at, and of course attended with instantaneous death.

The day after the affair Mr. Alcock addressed the following circular letter to the other resident Ministers:—

His Majesty's Legation, Yeddo, July 6.
SIR,—Last night, between eleven and twelve o'clock, the British Legation was suddenly attacked, and an entrance effected at several points simultaneously, by armed bands of Japanese, said by some to be Loonins, and by others the Prince of Mito's men. Two of the members of the establishment, Mr. Oliphant and Mr. Morrison, were met in a passage and both wounded, the first, I am sorry to say, very severely, when a momentary diversion was effected by a shot from Mr. Morrison's revolver, which appears to have taken effect. A few minutes later the same or another division of the assassins sought to effect an entrance to the apartments occupied by myself by breaking through and hacking in pieces some glass doors opening on to another suite, having mistaken their way. To this alone, under Providence, we probably owe our lives, for several minutes was thus lost to them, at the end of which some of the Yacouns or Damio's guard appear to have come to the spot, and the assassins were finally driven out of the house, after having penetrated into nearly every room except my own, leaving traces of their presence by slashing at all the beds and furniture. Marks of blood were found in various directions, and a prolonged conflict took place outside in the avenue and approaches to the Legation with the officers and men on service.

Such a deed of atrocity, perpetrated in the capital of a Government to which foreign representatives are accredited by the Western Powers, needs no comment. I only feel it a duty to communicate to my colleagues the facts for their guidance and information, and to acquaint them that, as a temporary measure, I have ordered up her Majesty's ship Ringdove, and caused a guard of men to be landed. What measures it may be expedient to adopt for the further security of this and the other Legations in Yeddo, and the maintenance of those international rights and liberties so grievously attacked, becomes a serious consideration, and one the pressing importance of which cannot well be overlooked; but on this part of the subject I shall be glad to enter into further communication with you and the rest of my colleagues, should you feel disposed to favour me with your views.

NEW INVENTIONS.—Some curious machines are being offered to the public at the present exhibition at Metz. Among others is a parachute, invented by M. Jaquet of Arras, to prevent the accidents to which workmen in mines are subject from the breaking of the ropes during their descent. M. van Gundersen exhibits a collection of instruments for cooling beer and other liquors served in public-houses during hot weather. One is a glass pump, which is safe against the attacks of acids, and which uses the liquor according as it is drawn from the cellar. A machine, invented by M. Genet of the Doubs, manufactures 400 nails in a minute. A machine for corking bottles is moved with the foot like the pedal of a piano. By this instrument, which costs from 30*l.* to 35*l.*, 250 bottles may be corked in an hour. There are specimens of paper manufactured solely of hay.

PAUPERISM.—The returns made to the Poor-law Board of the number of paupers relieved in England in August last show an increase of 5.99 per cent in the first week over the number a receipt of relief at the corresponding date last year, but the increase was reduced to 4.35 per cent in the fourth week of the month. This gradual improvement extended to every district of the kingdom except the north-western (Lancashire and Cheshire), in which the increase over last year was 4.05 per cent in the first week of August, and 4.73 in the fourth week. In that fourth week the increase over 1860 was in Yorkshire no less than 14.49 per cent, and in the West Midland and North Midland districts (Notts, Leicester, Derby, Warwick, Stafford, &c.), though much less than at the beginning of the month, it was still above 9 per cent; in the extreme north it was only 2.12; in the south-west, 1.19; in the eastern counties, 0.76; and in the south-eastern only 0.40.

THE GERMAN GAMBLING-PLACES.

THERE has been an unusually large influx of visitors to the various places of fashionable resort in Germany this season, and gambling has been carried on to an immense extent. A certain Spaniard, named Garcia, has been especially prominent in this demoralising practice. After visiting most of the other gambling resorts, and having had an extraordinary run of luck, particularly at Hamburg, where he won immense sums, he recently made his appearance at Baden-Baden, where of course he soon made himself conspicuous. A correspondent, writing from that place on the 19th ult., gives the following account of the state of things in the fashionable world there:—

The lion of the German gambling-places has been staying here for a few days. Garcia, the Spaniard, who won so much at Hamburg, has also broken the bank here no less than five times, and on each occasion has pocketed nearly £4000. But £16,000 was not considered a sufficient profit, and on his trying for a larger gain he lost about £6000 in one day, and about £16,000 the following day. His great losses had the effect of bringing out his temper, and in an excited state he began to address the company present. He said that Mr. B.—, the director of the gambling-house, was too great a lord, and thought it not worth his while to attend to his request. This request was that Garcia should play 12,000*l.* a loop, as he considered he was playing to great disadvantage by being limited to 6000*l.* a loop. Mr. B.— told him that it was the established rule that no player should stake more than 6000*l.* at one time, and, as such was the custom of the gambling-house bank, no alteration could be made to please the lion of the gambling world. At this moment, when all was excitement, the infuriated lion rushed and crumpled in his clenched fists several bank notes for thousands of francs; the croupiers stared aghast; the inspector of the game called him to order, but no order was restored; on the contrary, the confusion was heightened by an English Baronet and a little Frenchman having a fight, to the great confusion and fright of all the company present. The two boxers were expelled the kursal, and order was restored, the game continued and finished, when the lion was relieved of all his surplus notes. Any person present on that occasion might learn a lesson, and such a lesson as would teach him never to gamble. He might read in the anxious faces of the gamblers the emotions that were passing within. Many of them have staked upon the tapis not nearly all their fortunes, and remain with but a little remnant of their patrimony, and that being lost they are reduced to beggary; others play with their incomes, and the result is that they are obliged to practise hard economy during the greater part of the year to make up for the losses they have sustained during their stay in the German gambling towns; while there are others who are tempted to try their luck with that which does not belong to them, and, after an unsuccessful attack upon the bank, end their days in a prison. But everybody knows this, yet everybody plays; the ruin of many does not act as a warning. Nothing will prevent the evil but the closing of all these German gambling-houses.

Graziati, the vocalist, made a lucky hit the other day. Between the first and second part of a grand concert he dropped a napoleon or two on the green cloth, for the fun of the thing. It turned out to be a rich joke for the baritone, as he walked back with 30,000 francs to sing "Di Provence il mar il re." The transaction gave a considerable amount of extra metal to his voice.

THE STRENGTH OF GUNS.

It has been lately stated that the Ordnance Select Committee of Woolwich Arsenal, being anxious "to prove the extreme power of resistance" of one of the 100-pounder Armstrong guns, have tested one with much severity, and with the following results:—"The gun has undergone 100 rounds of firing, with charges of 14*lb.* of powder, and projectiles increasing in weight from 100*lb.* to 1000*lb.* The 1000*lb.* projectile was of such length as to extend nearly two feet beyond the muzzle. Ten rounds were fired with these enormous bolts, and the gun is reported to be totally uninjured. The recoil of the gun was very violent. It is understood to be the unanimous decision of the select committee that no further attempt should be made to burst it, as its strength is deemed abundantly sufficient for all practical purposes."

To those who know little of guns this may seem a severe test, indeed; but those better informed will be aware that it is hardly, if at all, greater than a good cast-iron gun of the same weight (70 cwt.) ought to withstand. The 100*lb.* gun is not far from 6*½* inch bore, the 80*lb.* Armstrong having a bore of 6*¼* in., the weight being 63 cwt. Let us see, therefore, what has been done by cast-iron guns of weights and sizes approaching those of the 100-pounder experimented upon. Colonel Eardley Wilmot has stated, in the Institution of Civil Engineers, that a 68*lb.* cast-iron gun had been subjected to the following tests at Woolwich. With charges of 16*lb.* of powder, or 2*lb.* more than those used in the "extreme test" of the Armstrong gun, ten rounds were fired with a cylinder weighing 68*lb.*, ten rounds with one weighing 136*lb.*, ten with 204*lb.*, ten with 272*lb.*, ten with 340*lb.*, ten with 408*lb.*, ten with 476*lb.*, and six with 544*lb.*, when the gun burst. A Spanish 32*lb.* cast-iron gun, weighing 45 cwt., had withstood the following rounds:—21*lb.* of powder, 64*lb.* of shots and two wads, then 9*lb.* of powder, 64*lb.* of shots and three wads, the last charge being repeated and fired 827 times without injury; then with 9*lb.* powder, 96*lb.* shots and two wads, then with 9*lb.* powder, 128*lb.* shots and two wads; and then, successively, with 9*lb.* of powder at each round, with 160*lb.*, 192*lb.*, 224*lb.*, 256*lb.*, 288*lb.*, 320*lb.*, 352*lb.*, and 384*lb.* shots, when the gun was full to the muzzle. After this the gun was fired with 12*lb.* powder and 320*lb.* shots, 15*lb.* powder and 288*lb.* shots, 18*lb.* powder and 256*lb.* shots, 21*lb.* powder and 224*lb.* shots, 24*lb.* powder and 192*lb.* shots; and, finally, with 27*lb.* powder and 160*lb.* shots, when the gun, full to the muzzle, burst. It thus took to burst the gun an aggregate of 3 tons 13 cwt. of powder, 25 tons 8 cwt. of shot, and 2 tons 19 cwt. of wads. An American 9-i*n.* cast-iron gun, weighing 81 cwt., had, Colonel Wilmot added, been fired with the following charges:—Two rounds with 15*lb.* powder and a 90*lb.* shell, then fifteen hundred consecutive rounds with 10*lb.* powder and a 72*lb.* shell, then five rounds with 15*lb.* powder and one 90*lb.* shell; then five rounds with 15*lb.* powder and 180*lb.* of shots; then two rounds with 15*lb.* powder and 270*lb.* of shots; then three rounds with 15*lb.* powder and 288*lb.* of shells; then seven rounds each with 20*lb.* of powder and a 1*½*-i*n.* shell weighing, respectively, at each round, 342*lb.*, 468*lb.*, 612*lb.*, 630*lb.*, 720*lb.*, 810*lb.*, and 900*lb.*, when, at the last charge, the gun burst. Taking into account the great complication and cost of the Armstrong guns and the comparatively low "extreme test" to which they have been subjected, for a few rounds only, they cannot be considered to show any remarkable superiority.—*Engineer.*

WHAT THE SLAVES THINK OF GENERAL FREMONT.—It will be generally recollected that, shortly after the election in 1856, the Tennessee papers gave accounts of a threatened insurrection among the slaves of a portion of the State, and that the insurrection was induced by the supposition prevalent among the blacks that Fremont was coming up the river, backed by a large army, for the purpose of liberating all the slaves. The exact details of this insurrectionary movement were never fully published; but it was known that many slaves were summarily tried and found guilty, some being executed, and others being sent further south. From well-authenticated sources, it is ascertained that the superstition of 1856 has been revived; that the presence of Fremont at the head of the western forces is already known to the negroes, and that his reappearance is hailed as a sure precursor of their liberation. This feeling has spread rapidly within the last month, and it is attracting great attention and exciting much alarm among the whites of those districts where there is a large proportion of slaves. Our informant assures us that once the name of Fremont is connected with any victory over the rebels, or that he is known to be in the States of Tennessee or Mississippi, the negroes will at once rise in rebellion. It is said that the fear of this danger at their own thresholds induced the rebels to take the offensive in Missouri, and to keep the battlefield as far as possible from the eager and watching negroes.—*Anglo-African.*

ABOLITION OF ANOTHER ANCIENT INSTITUTION.—On Tuesday expired the annoyance of Westminster, which were instituted as far back as the reign of Queen Elizabeth, but which were abolished by an Act of last Session. The Dean and Court of Burgesses are now to appoint inspectors to act in the place of householders, who were wont to parade the streets and inspect the weights and measures of the shopkeepers. The Act provides that "every person who shall abuse or insult any such inspector when in the execution of his office, or shall in any way obstruct the execution of the said office, shall be liable to a penalty not exceeding 40*s.*" The costermongers should have notice of the new law.

FRIGHTFUL ACCIDENT IN AN AMERICAN THEATRE.—A distressing and fatal accident occurred in the Continental Theatre, Philadelphia, on Saturday, the 14th ult. As some female members of the corps de ballet were dressing for a ballet introduced into a representation of "The Ten-pots," one of them, named Gale, in standing upon a settee to reach down her dress, was accidentally set on fire by the flame of a gas-jet. One of her sisters—there were three of them—endeavoured to extinguish the flames, but in the effort her own clothes were ignited. The third sister ran to the rescue, and she also was set on fire. In a frantic state they rushed into an adjoining room filled with ballet-girls, whose gauze also caught fire, and in a state of extraordinary terror some of them ran down stairs and on to the stage, while others leaped from the windows into the adjoining street. All the girls were more or less severely—some of them fatally—burned, and the result was that six of them died within a few hours of the accident having occurred, and four more were not expected to survive.

THE IMPERIAL CROWN OF ENGLAND.

THE following particulars regarding the Imperial crown of England are from some notes by Professor Tennant to Mr. Pole's work on diamonds, recently reprinted for private circulation:—

The Imperial State crown of her Majesty Queen Victoria was made by Messrs. Rundell and Bridge in the year 1838, with jewels taken from old crowns, and others furnished by command of her Majesty. It consists of diamonds, pearls, rubies, sapphires, and emeralds, set in silver and gold; it has a crimson velvet cap, with ermine border, and is lined with white silk. Its gross weight is 39 oz. 5 dwts. troy. The lower part of the band, above the ermine border, consists of a row of one hundred and twenty pearls, and the upper part of the band a row of one hundred and twelve pearls, between which, in front of the crown, is a large sapphire (partly drilled), purchased for the crown by his Majesty King George IV. At the back is a sapphire of smaller size, and six other sapphires (three on each side), between which are eight emeralds. Above and below the seven sapphires are fourteen diamonds, and around the eight emeralds one hundred and twenty-eight diamonds. Between the emeralds and sapphires are sixteen trefoil ornaments, containing one hundred and sixty diamonds. Above the band are eight sapphires surmounted by eight diamonds, between which are eight festoons consisting of one hundred and forty-eight diamonds. In the front of the crown, and in the centre of a diamond Maltese cross, is the famous ruby said to have been given to Edward Prince of Wales, son of Edward III., called the Black Prince, by Don Pedro, King of Castile, after the Battle of Najera, near Vittoria, A.D. 1367. This ruby was worn in the helmet of Henry V. at the battle of Agincourt, A.D. 1415. It is pierced quite through after the Eastern custom, the upper part of the piercing being filled up by a small ruby. Around this ruby, to form the cross, are seventy-five brilliant diamonds. Three other Maltese crosses, forming the two sides and back of the crown, have emerald centres, and contain respectively one hundred and thirty-two, one hundred and twenty-four, and one hundred and thirty brilliant diamonds. Between the four Maltese crosses are four ornaments in the form of the French fleur-de-lis, with four rubies in the centres, and surrounded by rose diamonds, containing respectively eighty-five, eighty-six, eighty-six, and eighty-seven rose diamonds. From the Maltese crosses issue four imperial arches composed of oak-leaves and acorns; the leaves containing seven hundred and twenty-eight rose, table, and brilliant diamonds; thirty-two pearls forming the acorns, set in cups containing fifty-four rose diamonds and one table diamond. The total number of diamonds in the arches and acorns is one hundred and eight brilliants, one hundred and sixteen table, and five hundred and fifty-nine rose diamonds. From the upper part of the arches are suspended four large pendent pear-shaped pearls, with rose diamond caps, containing twelve rose diamonds, and stems containing twenty-four very small rose diamonds. Above the arch stands the mound, containing in the lower hemisphere three hundred and four brilliants, and in the upper two hundred and forty-four brilliants; the zone and are being composed of thirty-three rose diamonds. The cross on the summit has a rose-cut sapphire in the centre, surrounded by four large brilliants, and one hundred and eight smaller brilliants.—Summary of jewels comprised in the crown:—1 large ruby, irregularly polished; 1 large broad-spread sapphire; 16 sapphires; 11 emeralds; 4 rubies; 1363 brilliant diamonds; 1273 rose diamonds; 147 table diamonds; 4 drop-shaped pearls; 273 pearls."

THE WRECK REGISTER FOR 1860.

THE *Life-boat*, a publication issued by the National Life-boat Institution, has an interesting article on this subject. It says:—

As might have been expected from the continued succession of bad weather, the number of shipwrecks during the whole year was unusually large, giving a total loss of 1379. Whilst, however, wrecks and strandings have increased, collisions have happily decreased, being 298 against 319 in 1859; but the whole number of casualties of all kinds in 1860 is 146 above the annual average for the past six years. On the other hand, it is satisfactory to find that, although the number of wrecks and strandings has been greater than usual, the loss of life has been considerably less, being 264 under the annual average of the past nine years. The total loss of life from the 1379 shipwrecks during the year was 536, whilst 2152 persons were fortunately saved by life-boats, the rocket and mortar apparatus, shore-boats, and other means—a most gratifying and encouraging result, not only to the poor people themselves thus snatched from a premature death, but also to those who have toiled hard for many years past in organising and completing the means of saving life from shipwreck on our coasts.

The register furnishes, as usual, some curious facts relative to the class of ships that are inevitably wrecked when overtaken by a gale of wind. Of the 295 vessels wrecked on our coasts during the last two years, 1504, or more than half, were colliers, and of that class; and 1291 were timber-laders, passenger-ships, and vessels in ballast.

Of these our old friends the schooners hold, as usual, their pre-eminence for wrecking, 912 of them having during the same period gone to pieces. Next to the schooners come the brig, 644 of which were in the same time met a similar fate. We find that of the 1379 vessels wrecked last year 551 were commanded by masters who were not required to have certificates of competency.

The direction of the wind which proved most destructive to vessels wrecked on our coasts last year is also given. One hundred and eleven vessels were wrecked during the prevalence of the wind from S.W.; 128 from W.N.W.; and 104 from N.W. Eight vessels were wrecked during absolutely calm weather, 151 in a fresh breeze, 168 in a whole gale, 101 in a storm, and 139 in a hurricane.

We find that 21 wrecks took place from not heaving the lead; 2 from interference; 35 from general negligence and want of caution; 39 founded from unseaworthiness; and 5 from defective compasses.

During the past nine years the total number of all casualties on the coasts and in the seas of the British Isles are thus given:—In 1852 there were 1115; in 1853, 832; in 1854, 987; in 1855, 1141; in 1856, 1153; in 1857, 1143; in 1858, 1170; in 1859, 1416; and in 1860, 1379—making a total of 10,356 vessels lost in nine years, or 1 lost in every 210 British ships, and 1 in every 232 foreign vessels, and giving an average annual loss of 1148 vessels on the coasts and in the seas of the United Kingdom.

We regret to find that the sacrifice of life from this great multitude of shipwrecks amounted to 7201, or an average of 800 lives that meet with a watery grave from shipwreck every year on the coasts and in the seas of the British Isles.

LIBRARY OF THE BRITISH MUSEUM.—An important improvement, which has been long under consideration, consisting of a rearrangement and transcription of the catalogues of the library of the British Museum, is, it is said, to be commenced forthwith. The catalogues now comprise—1. The King's Catalogue, in five volumes; 2. The Grenville Catalogue, in seven volumes; 3. The old interleaved catalogue, in eighty-two volumes, partly printed and partly in manuscript; 4. Mr. Panizzi's Catalogue, in 300 volumes. A staff of clerks has been appointed to transcribe the contents of the four catalogues into one general catalogue, alphabetically arranged. The transcript is to be made at once in triplicate, and will be placed in the library from time to time as completed.

OATHS IN CRIMINAL CASES.—An Act of Parliament, passed in the late Session (24 and 25 Vic., cap. lxxvi.), has just come into operation—"To give relief to persons who may refuse, or be unwilling from alleged conscientious motives, to be sworn in criminal proceedings." It enacts that if any person called as a witness in any court of criminal jurisdiction in England or Ireland, or required or desiring to make an affidavit or deposition in the cause of any criminal proceeding, shall refuse or be unwilling, from alleged conscientious motives, to be sworn, it shall be lawful for the Court or Judge, or other presiding officer or persons qualified to take affidavits or depositions, upon being satisfied of the sincerity of such objection, to permit such person, instead of being sworn, to make his or her solemn affirmation or declaration in the following words:—"I, A. B., do solemnly, sincerely, and truly affirm and declare that the taking of any oath is, according to my religious belief, unlawful; and I do solemnly, sincerely, and truly affirm and declare," &c. The affirmation is to have the same force as an oath, and the punishment for making a false affirmation is to be the same as for wilful and corrupt perjury.

THE EASTERN FISHERIES.—The herring fishery is now being actively prosecuted off the eastern coast. Two or three boats have come into Yarmouth with about eight lasts of their own catch, but recent heavy weather at sea has caused some boats to seek harbours nearer the fishing-grounds than Yarmouth. Prices have ranged from £10 to £25 per last, according to quality. Some of the longshore boats have landed at Yarmouth several thousand fish, which have realised 6*s.* to 7*s.* per 1000.

THE RETURN OF THE COURT FROM BALMORAL.—It is expected that the Queen and suite will arrive in Edinburgh, on their return from Balmoral, on the evening of Tuesday, the 22nd inst., and that on the following day his Royal Highness the Prince Consort will lay the foundation-stones of the new General Post Office and the new Industrial Museum buildings. The Court will leave Holyrood Palace for England early on Thursday morning, the 24th.

THE HARVEST IN HUNGARY.—The corn-harvest has been most abundant this year in Hungary, and enormous quantities are in consequence being sent off by railway to the countries of Western Europe. The advantages which Hungary will derive from these exports are exceedingly great. According to a statistical return, drawn up by a Minister of Agriculture, the value of corn exported from Hungary since the beginning of the month of August is nearly 18,000,000*l.*, being only about a third of what can be spared.

Literature.

The Silver Cord. A Story. By SHIRLEY BROOKS, Author of "Aspen Court," "The Gordian Knot," &c. In three volumes. London: Bradbury and Evans.

Why "The Silver Cord," Mr. Shirley Brooks? On the titlepage appears a quotation from "Locksley Hall," which at first sight seems to explain it—"A swarm of fireflies tangled in a silver braid"—a very beautiful metaphor, indeed, when applied to the rising of the pleads, but giving a false idea of the gloomy network of villainy entangling the characters of a "thrilling" novel. However, we were at first inclined to accept this explanation of the title, and should, perhaps, have left it altogether unnoticed had we not come to a passage at the end of the book which implies that "The Silver Cord" is but an expression for the happiness of the married life of the hero and heroine, which is broken at the commencement of the novel and reunited at the end. If our first construction is the right one, we would suggest that "The Cobweb" would be a more fitting name for the narrative, so dark is its intricacy, and so spider-like the manoeuvres of its principal villain; if the latter, we can only say that it is a most fanciful and inexpressive title, and leaves the motto on the titlepage wholly unexplained.

To write a "thrilling" story of modern life is no easy thing. The term implies that the interest of the reader is to be kept constantly at the stretch by startling incidents, that the denouement is tantalisingly withheld, and that the excitement is heightened by the introduction of frequent examples of villainy and crime. The author must contrive that all sorts of improbable occurrences shall take place, without a suspicion of their impossibility arising in the reader's mind, or at least without his being able to bring such a charge home; in a word, he must be able to do whatever he likes with his characters, and yet "keep up the appearances" of the nineteenth century. It is, therefore, a great credit to Mr. Shirley Brooks's ingenuity that he has been able to do all this. Let us see how he manages it. In the first place, he has placed the principal action of the story in France, where murderers are still allowed to escape, or supposed to be still allowed to do so (which is the same thing for an author's purpose) if the "occasion" requires, where duels are still not unknown, and where, lastly, the system of espionage may be used as an engine for concealing or discovering secrets at the author's will, and for entangling the thread of the story in such a hopeless knot that the reader reads feverishly to the end wondering if it be possible for even the author to disentangle it. In the second place, he has chosen a very "genius" of a villain, who, with all the benefit of secrets to sell, like Colonel Altamont, alias Amory, has all the talents of a Vivian and the good fortune of a Don Juan; and, lastly, he has adopted the French method of telling the story and describing the characters at one stroke, in dramatic—we might say melodramatic—dialogue, and has kept the virtuous part of his *dramatis personæ* under a cloud, and almost out of the way, from the beginning to the end. Thus has Mr. Shirley Brooks expended a great deal of clever writing, and attained the desired end. Whether it is a success to be proud of or not, we leave our readers to judge.

We have spoken of the hero and the heroine, meaning thereby the usual sense of those words in connection with a novel—viz., the pair (married, in this case) who are miserable all through the book and made happy at the end; but, properly speaking, the hero of the story is one Ernest Hardwick, alias Adair, who, when a writing-master at the village of Liphwait, seduced one of the three daughters of a Mr. Vernon (a character bearing much resemblance to that of Mr. Fairleigh in "The Woman in White") who afterwards marries, without confessing her secret, a Mr. L'uphart, a Scottish engineer, resident in Paris. Another sister marries a Mr. Charles Hawkesley, an author, and the third a Mr. Lygon, a Government clerk. Mr. and Mrs. Lygon are the "hero and heroine" before mentioned. Ernest Adair has also trifled with the affections (to use a euphemism) of one Marion Wagstaffe, afterwards Mrs. Berry, who, with jealous malevolence, believing Laura (Mrs. Lygon) to have usurped her place in Adair's affection, bribes him to forge a series of love-letters of the most abandoned kind purporting to be written by Laura to her first love. These, bound up with a few harmless letters actually written by Laura to the object of an early and pure passion, form the means by which he induces her to leave her husband and children, and to go to France. Her struggles to obtain possession of these letters, and the misery of Bertha (Mrs. Urquhart), who, after suffering for a long while the extortions of Adair, and the dread of discovery, is finally found out and ruined, form the subject of the story.

Mr. and Mrs. Hawkesley are the only quite loveable characters in the story. It is a great relief, after struggling through pages of painfully-protracted villainies, to come upon this couple with their genuine love and delightful conversation. Adventuress, the manager, is also a pleasant person, and drawn, we suspect, from nature.

The point which the reader reads on to the end desirous of discovering is the motive why Mrs. Lygon should leave her husband and her home without one word of warning, and we cannot say that it is at all satisfactorily explained. In our opinion, she was far too clever a woman to have done anything so madly foolish as to place herself under the very cloud she desired to avoid—the suspicion that she was a worthless wife. No woman conscious of her innocence and her husband's love would have left him of her own free will, as she is represented to have done.

A word more, and we have done. The total want of humour in this book is strange in the production of one of the cleverest writers for *Punch*. The incident of Mrs. Empson, a venomous old woman, being "chafed" by her elderly nephew about her bad spelling, and the quarrel that ensued, was meant, we presume, to be humorous, but is simply vulgar. There is, however, plenty of light, sparkling wit throughout the pages, from the first paragraph, where the striking of a church clock is gravely chronicled as the remark of the presiding saint from her steeple, to where, in nearly the last, a child of a French father and an English mother is termed an "international baby." While we trust that Mr. Shirley Brooks's next novel may be one showing as great talent as the present, we hope he will expend it on a theme that does not sacrifice truth to effect so much as does that of "The Silver Cord."

The Veil of Isis; or, the Mysteries of the Druids. By W. WINWOOD READE. Skeet.

Mr. Reade dedicates this account of Druidism to "Emily ***" as "an effort to redeem a mistake, perhaps a fault, in his literary life," and gives as his reason for so doing that the lady has repeatedly urged him to the task, and has presided, "like a guardian angel," over its accomplishment. This is a very good reason; and though we cannot say, even to please a lady, that there is anything of sufficient weight in the present volume to give it force as an atonement for the blunder to which Mr. W. W. Reade alludes, yet the world should take the will for the deed, and even, perhaps, rate above its natural value any such "effort" as the one before us. The worst of the book is its pretentiousness. If it had been written without any of that "elan" in which our neighbours over the Straits take such pride, and which Mr. W. W. Reade emulates, it would have been pleasant reading. A collection of historic and quasi-historic anecdote and folk-lore should either be turned out à la Timbs, on the one hand, or endowed with some sort of homogeneity by the reflections of the collector. Mr. Reade's thoughts are not worth anything, while he yet challenges, by his fussy manner and glaringly short paragraphs, some of the attention due to a thinker. "The Veil of Isis" is almost necessarily readable, but it is a bad book. If we were Mr. Reade's guardian angel we would advise him to forget the old "mistake," to work hard for a few years at low pressure, and not to write again till he finds a grey hair or two on his head.

THE MARCHIONESS OF LONDONDERRY AND HER IRISH TENANTS.

In accordance with an annual custom—and a good custom it is—the Dowager Marchioness of Londonderry entertained the tenants on her Irish estates at dinner in the town of Carnlough last week. The chair was occupied by Mr. Richard Wilson, her Ladyship's steward, and, on the toast of her health being drunk, the Marchioness—who always answers for herself on these occasions—made the following remarks:—

My friends, your affectionate reception always rejoices my heart; none know better than the Irish how to give a hearty welcome; and I assure you that, when I have the pleasure of finding myself once more among you, I forget the exertion and effort necessary to arrive here. It is also encouraging to believe that these annual meetings really do good, and this is clearly demonstrated by the improvement you make; and thus bringing us together affords an opportunity of cultivating a kindly feeling between landlord and tenant; besides, I have the vanity to fancy that my lectures and warnings have been of service, because you well know that, although my advice is given in all due humility, yet it is always with a sincere and anxious desire for your own good. And while I deplore that the state of things as regards your farms, your houses, &c., is far, very far, from what I could wish, still there is no doubt progress has been made. The simple fact that in 1858 only 27 acres of flax were in cultivation, and in 1861 it is increased to 150 acres, speaks volumes. On the other hand, I grieve to hear that, in defiance of all warning and advice, you have planted the potato in far greater quantities than you ever did before; and mark how fatal this has been, and how universal the blight, and let me entreat you to beware how you repeat the experiment. A spirit of enterprise is shown among you by the increased number of competitors for prizes for the best-cultivated farm, and I rejoice that we have found something to interest you and stimulate your energies, as the shows for flowers and roots were obliged to be abandoned as unsuccessful. I hear the different schools on the estate are prospering and progressing, and, thanks to the excellent system and valuable aid of the National Board, there are good schools in almost all the townlands, and it is really your own fault if your children are not properly educated.

Sir Hugh Cairns, M.P., was present, and, in the course of a speech which he made, offered the following remarks on the importance of scientific education to the farmer, and on the progressive improvement of Ireland during recent years:—

How is a farmer enabled to till how to properly manure his lands, or how can he understand the combinations of fertilising elements of the soil, unless he has, at all events, an elementary knowledge of chemistry? How is he able to tell with regard to the strata of the ground which he cultivates, and the minerals which it contains, and the best mode of arranging the different soils, without a considerable knowledge of the sciences, of which one of the most distinguished professors, Mr. Stewart, is sitting opposite me—I allude to geology and mineralogy? How is a farmer able to tell how to use the instruments of his employment, and the advantages of various implements which are coming into use in agriculture every day in this country, unless he possesses a knowledge of mechanics? How is a farmer without some knowledge of the science which regulates supply and demand to know how he can best dispose of or keep in store the produce of his farm unless he knows something of the principles of supply and demand, and is acquainted with the state of the markets all over the country? I might, gentlemen, increase the tally of knowledge which the farmer requires to possess, but I do not think it at all necessary to pursue it further. Your farms, I daresay, are not so well cultivated as they might be; but they are much better than they were fifteen or twenty years ago. You have got railways approaching you, one on one side of you, and one on the other—railways, the effect of which must be to increase the value of the whole of your property. You have got that splendid harbour of Carnlough before the window, where you can ship your produce and import your supplies; and, gentlemen, just as there are these wonderful marks of progress and of increase in this part of the country, so, I am happy to think, the same may be said with regard to the whole of Ireland. Ireland in the last fifteen years has been passing through a fearful, but necessary, ordeal. Fifteen years ago that awful scourge of Providence, the famine, visited this land. It was not on every estate in Ireland that the proprietor was able to stem and mitigate that fearful calamity and scourge as the head of this property was able to do. And we see the consequences. In the south and west of Ireland a number of properties changed hands. Scotch and English capital was introduced, and what has been the result? Why, in the south and west of Ireland there are farms of 3000, 4000, and 5000 acres in size, with large farmsteads, supplied with water-power and steam-power, the farms giving most excellent employment to the population of the country. In districts where wages formerly were from 2s. to 3s. a week, the wages are now from 7s. to 10s. a week. This is the state of things now in the south and west of Ireland. What is the consequence to the people? That there is abroad at the present moment in Ireland a spirit of peace, of prosperity, of happiness in the population, and of loyalty and obedience to the laws, such as never had prevailed in any former period in this country. It is in the development of the industrial and, above all, the agricultural resources—it is in the improvement in point of social progress of the people, in the spread of education among the people—it is in the spirit of enlightened and liberal enterprise among the people, such as has characterised every work on this estate—it is in that interchange of kindly feeling between the owners and occupiers of land, such as we see expressed in this case, that the renovation of this country is being effected.

THE GERMAN FLEET.—A Berlin correspondent of the *Independence* says:—"The agitation for the German fleet increases in extent every day. The committee of the National Association at Coburg has just forwarded to the Minister of Marine at Berlin the sum of 10,000 florins destined for the construction of gun-boats. A brisk subscription is going on at Berlin, and, indeed, all through Germany."

LONDON MEDICAL SCHOOLS.—On Tuesday, according to custom, the various medical schools in and about the metropolis were opened for the winter session. The attendance was good, and the professors who were selected to deliver the introductory lectures in each of the schools severally took up and ably handled some important branch of medical science.

THE BUILDERS' STRIKE.—Not the slightest symptom of any termination to this unfortunate and long-protracted struggle between the associated master builders and their workmen is yet apparent. The struggle has now lasted over a period of six months, and both parties appear to have made up their mind that it must continue through the winter. An understanding has been come to by the masters in union that as few contracts as possible shall be entered upon before the ensuing spring, and that to expedite those in hand the employers who have been fortunate enough to obtain anything like an adequate supply of skilled labour shall assist, by the transfer of that labour, those who have been less fortunate. It is stated to be the intention of the masters in the building trade throughout the kingdom to form a general union, with the avowed object of enforcing the hourly system of payment and engagement on their workmen. It is understood that the question is to be taken into consideration at the next meeting of the Masters' Association, on Monday next, and in the present temper of the employers there is every probability of such a resolution being adopted. A strike on the most gigantic scale will be the probable result.

MEMORIAL TO LORD HERBERT AT SALISBURY.—A large and influential meeting of noblemen and gentlemen was held in the Council Chamber of the Townhall of Salisbury, on Thursday week, for the purpose of considering the propriety of contributing to some public and permanent record of the esteem and respect borne by the inhabitants of the county of Wilts to the person and character of the late Lord Herbert of Lea. The following resolutions were adopted:—1. "That the noble example set by the late Lord Herbert in the service of his country and in all the relations of life, of which we have been witnesses, appears to us to demand some public and enduring memorial by which the remembrance of his truly Christian character and life may be preserved." 2. "That we should wish any memorial decided upon to remind us both of the person of Lord Herbert and his devotion to every good work that tended to relieve the suffering and promote the happiness and wellbeing of his fellow-men." 3. "That in the opinion of this meeting the most suitable mode of attaining the twofold object referred to in the previous resolutions is that a statue be erected in Salisbury as the capital town of the county, and that a convalescent hospital be established in some place deemed best adapted for that purpose, to be called and known hereafter as 'The Herbert Convalescent Hospital.'" It was also resolved to appoint a committee to carry out the resolutions, and that subscriptions to one or both objects, and to even the smallest amount, be received both from residents in the county and from all who feel inclined to aid in the work.

PROPOSED CITY OF LONDON COLLEGE.—A highly-influential meeting was held at the Mansion House on Wednesday to promote the movement for placing the metropolitan evening classes for young men upon a collegiate footing under the designation of the City of London College. The Lord Mayor presided. Resolutions in favour of the objects of the meeting were adopted, and subscriptions amounting to upwards of £1000 were announced.

THE BISHOP OF POITIERS AND THE EMPEROR.—The Bishop of Poitiers has once more got himself into trouble. A few Sundays since he delivered a sermon in his cathedral, which he thickly interspersed with political allusions. The Right Rev. Prelate dwelt on the persecutions undergone by St. Peter, and told his congregation that it was "neither Herod the First, nor Herod the Second, but Herod the Third, who had cast Peter into prison." Proceedings have been commenced against the Bishop.

REPRESENTATION OF PLYMOUTH.

THE Hon. William Wells Addington, second son of Lord Sidmouth, has issued an address to the electors of Plymouth, and entered upon a canvass in the Conservative interest in opposition to Mr. Morrison. Mr. Addington thus explains his political sentiments:—

I belong to the Liberal-Conservative party; and, though not prepared to pledge myself to an unflinching support of party measures, I may distinctly state that my opinions are in general in accordance with those which guided the late Government of Lord Derby. Approving of the mainly and patriotic course adopted by the present Government in its relation with foreign Powers, more especially as regards the Italian question, I shall consider it my duty not to offer a factious opposition to their measures with the mere object of placing another party in office. Adhering firmly to the established principles of the Constitution, I should wish to see adopted such moderate and gradual changes as may tend to the improvement and adaptation of our institutions to the requirements of the present day, without subverting the basis on which they have been so happily reared. Holding these views, therefore, I am entirely opposed to the introduction of the system of voting by ballot for the election of representatives in Parliament. I believe that far greater security for the independence of electors is to be found in the spread of education, and the consequent increasing intelligence of the mass of the community. The question of church rates demands an early settlement, and, if elected as your member, I will exert my best efforts to obtain such an arrangement as may, whilst securing the integrity of the Established Church, recognise the claims of those who conscientiously dissent from her teaching. Having always given my support to the introduction and establishment of the principle of free trade with other nations, and feeling also that the main resources for the defence of this country must ever lie in its navy and mercantile marine, I am of opinion that all burdens pressing unfairly and unequally on our shipping interest, as compared with that of other countries, should be removed, and every encouragement given to our brave and hardy seamen. As a resident in your county, and having passed many years in the service of the Royal Navy, I am by association and feeling warmly interested in your town and port, and I shall always regard its welfare as a paramount object with me.

Mr. Addington is an independent country gentleman in the prime of life—his early youth having been passed in the Royal Navy—a native of Devonshire, and resides in that county, at Up Ottery Manor, near Honiton, where he has been for several years an active and much-respected magistrate of that division of the county. He is also a Deputy Lieutenant of the county, and a Captain in a corps of volunteers.

ITALY AND HUNGARY.—It is related that a few days since M. Jourie, the Swiss Plenipotentiary at Turin, had occasion to call on M. Ricasoli about some ecclesiastical affair. When entering the Minister's bureau he met a well-known Hungarian millionaire coming out, but at the time was not particularly struck with the circumstance. In stalling his business to Ricasoli the latter did not seem to heed what he said, but remained, to the astonishment of his visitor, absent and frowning, and suddenly getting up, with an expression of energy, exclaimed, "No, certes! It shall never be said of us that we abandoned Hungary when her time of trouble came."

MM. DUPIN AND CHEVALIER.—M. Dupin has published a letter in reply to the one M. Michael Chevalier lately addressed to him on the subject of free trade, with special reference to the English and Belgian commercial treaties with France. M. Dupin expresses his leanings to Protectionism; doubts the wisdom of commercial treaties; and, generally, reproduces the old Protectionist arguments with which the people of this country are all familiar, and which we have now entirely abandoned as an element of our fiscal policy. The only novel idea broached by M. Dupin is that, somehow, he fancies the English treaty involves a limitation of the Navy of France; but what connection there can be between the two matters it is difficult to perceive.

POISONINGS BY MISTAKE.—A child has been poisoned near Carlisle in consequence of a medical man giving it strychnine in mistake for santaline. The bottles containing the two drugs stood together on the surgery shelves, and, the labels having been obliterated, the one was mistaken for the other. The recommendation of the coroner's jury that "all doctors should have their bottles properly labelled," although judicious and proper under the circumstances, is surely one which ought not to have been necessary.—Capel Hanbury Leigh, Esq., Lord Lieutenant of Monmouthshire, was poisoned by mistake a few days ago—his valet having given him a portion of an embrocation containing poison in place of some medicine which had been prescribed for him.

A LION LOOSE IN HAMBURG.—A lion, which was being transported in a wooden cage from a travelling menagerie to the water-side, managed to break loose and get out of his temporary prison. The ferocious brute immediately fell upon one of the three horses that were attached to the carriage. The driver, who was upon one of the two others, sat still in blank amazement at the sight, which was declared by many spectators—who, by-the-by, were all out of harm's way—amongst the finest they had ever witnessed. In a moment the driver of the second menagerie-wagon, who happened to be just behind, came up, and, calling out for a rope, which was fortunately at hand, approached the lion, and with great nerve and coolness fastened it round his throat. The infuriated beast, who was already feasting upon its fallen victim, disdained to take any notice of the daring act. In a trice the sling was tightened round the neck of the destroyer, and, with the help of half a dozen of the bolder lookers-on, the animal was dragged to the side of the wagon, and secured ignominiously. The horse, in spite of its fearful wounds, was not quite dead when released from the grasp of its enemy.

A STREET IN NAPLES.

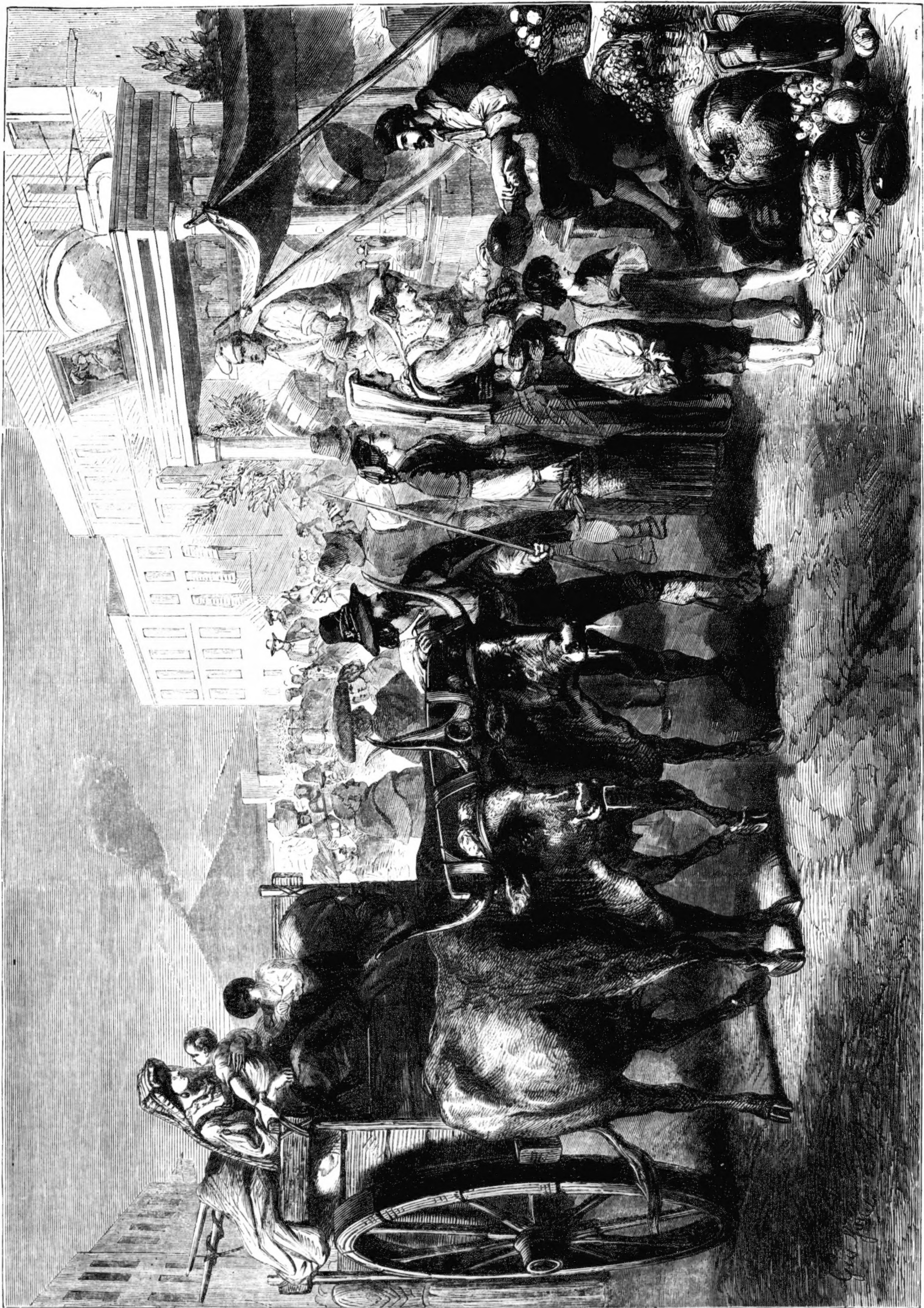
ANYBODY going to Naples and entering by the Strada Faria will pass along the Strada Toledo, leaving on the left the Bourbon Museum. Then, crossing the Palace square, they will find themselves in that wonderful street named the Chiaja; and if they should be lucky enough to visit it for the first time on a morning when the contadini are bringing their fruit and vegetables to market they will behold one of the most picturesque spectacles in the world.

In London, or Paris even, large crowds preserve an almost unvarying tint of black or blue, either the black coat or the blouse predominating according as we are in either city. In Italy, however, this monotony of appearance is always broken by the brilliant colours of the lazzaroni and the petticoats of the countrywomen. Here, too, instead of a lean horse harnessed to the cart, you have a kind of agricultural chariot, drawn triumphantly by a couple of long-horned oxen. The beggars, it must be allowed, play no insignificant part in the mixture of colours and the symphony of cries and yells; while the voices of the sellers of lemonade, deep and guttural, form a sort of fine bass accompaniment to the variations (some of them not orthodox) of the cattle-drovers. On looking down on Naples from the summit of St. Elmo, the Chiaja appears like a white belt surrounding one side of the city. It is there that the habitations of the aristocracy have been built, as well as several other houses exceedingly elegant, but, perhaps, a little less gorgeous. Some of the buildings may deserve their name of palaces, although it cannot be denied that some of them are so mean as to show at once that the word has not quite the same signification as with us. Nevertheless, in many of these mansions, which have been transmitted through a family line, are preserved that sign of grandeur which was imprinted on all the works of the Italian architects of the Renaissance period.

From every hotel window what a marvellous landscape lies before you as you look from the heights upon Naples—Procida in the far distance, Ischia, the grave of Graziella, and the white Capri! then the ancient fishponds where Lucullus fattened his lampreys, and Chiatamone, the little historical palace which Garibaldi assigned as a house to Alexandre Dumas, complete the picture.

To the left lies the bay, the white houses on its shores—shores washed by waves as blue as the skies above them—and the gigantic lighthouse, a signal, alike to the vessels in the bay and to the inhabitants of the delicious plains of Portici, Angri, and Nocera, of the symptoms of an eruption of Vesuvius. The contadini, however, are used to seeing the giant smoke, and, as it were, respire with threatening breath. They may be swallowed up certainly, but meanwhile they will sell the lava and rummage amongst the cinders.

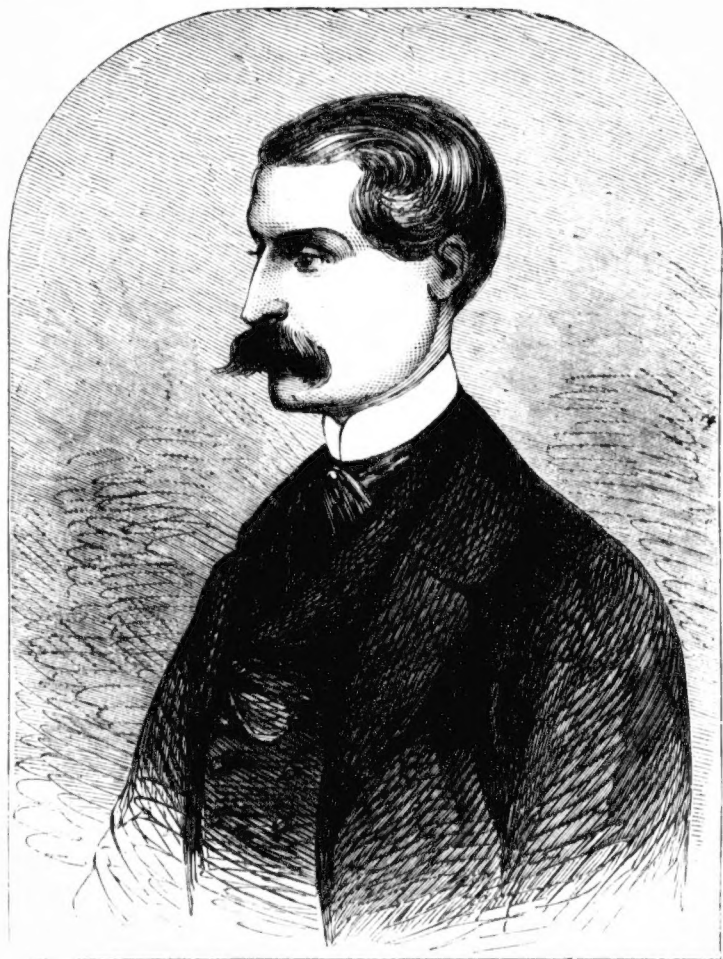
On the day of an eruption the Chiaja is again one of the principal points of attraction, for the spectacle can be seen well from there. It is the fashionable quarter, too, and a great crowd of elegantly-dressed ladies assemble there, as well they may, for in itself this wonderful street is perhaps unequalled in Europe for the picturesque life and colour it exhibits.



THE CHIAJA, NAPLES.



MRS. GUINNESS HILL AND CHILD



RICHARD GUINNESS HILL



MARY ANN IDLE (THE DARK WOMAN).



CATHERINE PARSONS (NURSEMAID)



ELIZABETH ANDREWS (WHO RECEIVED THE CHILD).



THE GLOBE BEERSHOP, RUGBY (WHERE THE CHILD WAS BORN).



INSPECTOR BRETT (THE DETECTIVE).

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ILLUSTRATED TIMES.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 5, 1861.

IRELAND REGENERATED.

THE most careless observer who has visited Ireland this year, after having seen it, say, even half a dozen years ago, cannot fail to be struck with the altered aspect of the country and its inhabitants. Swarms of beggars no longer beset the traveller, Donnybrook Fair is a mere tradition, the common street vehicles are models which would long ere this have been introduced in London but for the narrowness of our street roadways, and drunkenness, thanks to Father Mathew, is at least as unobtrusive as in Paris. Of the great Repeal movement the only apparent trace is a placard announcing a subscription for the burial of the returned body of some gentleman of violent opinions who was expatriated a dozen years back, and whom the advertisement, eloquently expatiating on his merits, sets forth as having died—"with his last sigh for a shroud."

In the suburbs, for miles around, villas in the style of our middle-class residences at Clapham or Brixton are rising as rapidly as within ordinary memory Pimlico arose from the unhealthy swamps around the Five Fields and the Willow-walk. What is more, these find tenants as soon as erected at rents far higher than those paid for similar tenements in England.

The intense respectability of the every-day life is, to one whose notions of the Irish have been gained from Irish comic songs and the works of such writers as Lever, truly astounding. Every one remembers how the City authorities lately objected on serious grounds to the opening of a flower-garden on Sundays. A walk through the city will convince you that this seriousness is becoming a characteristic of Dublin. That remarkable sect of philanthropists (and the race is not so limited as might be expected) whose idea of happiness is that of seeing people personally unknown to them walking about with shiny chimney-pot hats and black kid gloves in the dog days might find a Paradise in Dublin. Their great archetype, "G. U.," who recently wrote a long letter of bewailment to the *Times* because he had seen his countrymen promenading in Paris in wide-awake hats, might fall on his knees and kiss the flags of Dublin in an ecstasy at the obedience of its citizens to "the conventionalities." Nor is this confined to outdoor life or the broad daylight. What is called "tavern life" appears to have been reformed altogether. A Dublin tradesman might as soon hope to thrive by selling under cost-price as to trust to success if habituated to spending his evenings after the manner of his brother in London. The "thirsty soul" who pants for a draught of Dublin porter may wander far enough unless he chooses to sink into a back room at a grocer's. If he take a "car" and proffer the compliment of a glass of ale to its well-conducted driver, he will run the risk of being encountered with a civil "No thankie, Sir."

Nor is the regeneration confined to the metropolis and its outskirts. The first step towards it was certainly the construction of excellent roads throughout the country. In the days of Rowlandson and Baubary Irish roads were the jest of our caricaturists. For years past they have been the best in the three kingdoms. Irish tenancy and Irish agriculture were comprised, at least in public opinion, in cultivating a patch of potatoes for existence, and feeding a pig upon the parings to pay the rent. The mud hovel, inhabited by the family, human and porcine, was to be seen within easy distance of the capital. On the shutter, thrown aside during the day, one might trace the outline of a chalk target, diversified with bullet-marks, where the occupant or his friends had been practising settling accounts with the landlord.

But the Encumbered Estates Act has come into operation. The landlord, living on the Continent on the proceeds of the wretched cottiers' pigs and leaving an entailed estate, mortgaged five times over, to his heir, as reckless as himself, has been ousted by statute, and his estate sold in satisfaction of the claims upon it, as they should have been generations ago. And now appears a curious fact. The Irish peasant, of whom formerly the whisky-drinking, shillelah-flourishing "boy" was the type, is also found to have regenerated. He is an economist, harder than the Scotchman. The Scot economises, but he will live cleanly and on good food. The Irishman will live on anything, and anyhow, to hoard the cash with which his hope for years has been to emigrate. He sees another opening, and purchases his own holding. He now improves for his own benefit the patch which he would have been a fool to ameliorate for his absentee landlord, and he begins to talk of cultivating flax or cereals for profit, instead of potatoes for bare life.

Even the very cattle experience the "regeneration." The Irish carhorses would put the miserable hacks of the London cabs to shame and confusion—yet the fare from any one part of Dublin to any other is only 6d., and the driver does not grumble at receiving it. "Everywhere," says the *Times* correspondent, in speaking of the Irish horned cattle, "a good description of beast is found in field and stalls." The very pigs have found their part in the improvement. The traditional pig—as slender as a greyhound, and with a nose like a pointer (said, indeed, by factious detractors to have been trained to

combine the best qualities of both in the field)—has been, says the same authority, improved, "with the result of an astonishing increase in the produce of bacon and pork; and in every locality, in every cottier's sty, as well as at the farm-buildings, a comely, well-shaped, full-chinned, fine-snouted, thin-boned, kindly-haired hog is sure to be met with."

The causes of this regeneration are of course not to be summed up in a single phrase. Among the more immediate are certainly the roads, Bianconi's cars, Father Mathew's movement, and the Encumbered Estates Act. One other must not be omitted. It was a calamity which threatened almost to destroy the population, but which, by absolutely necessitating reform and legislation, has, under Providence, resuscitated a ruined country. This must be a curious subject for reflection to those of our clerical friends who, at the time of the potato rot, declared the seeming curse to be the punishment of Heaven for the English endowment of Maynooth College.

THE REVENUE.

	Quarter ended Sept. 30, 1861.	Quarter ended Sept. 30, 1860.	Year ended Sept. 30, 1861.	Year ended Sept. 30, 1860.	Year ended Sept. 30, 1861.
	Net Revenue.	Net Revenue.	Net Revenue.	Net Revenue.	Increase. Decrease.
Customs...	5,982,000	5,888,000	23,488,000	23,396,395	91,605
Excise...	4,221,000	5,089,000	18,624,000	20,070,000	1,446,000
Stamps...	2,013,000	2,053,000	8,426,170	8,267,258	158,912
Taxes...	160,000	166,000	3,130,000	3,257,000	127,000
Property Tax...	991,000	2,281,000	11,133,000	10,309,816	823,184
Post Office...	870,000	800,000	3,470,000	3,370,000	100,000
Crown Lands...	66,479	65,568	292,479	289,568	2,911
Miscellaneous...	297,753	315,598	1,242,511	1,849,940	607,429
Total...	14,001,232	16,658,166	69,806,160	70,809,977	1,003,817

Net Decrease ... £1,003,817

SAYINGS AND DOINGS.

MR. CHARLES LOFTUS O'WAY, C.B., British Consul-General at Milan, died in that city last week.

LORD PALMERSTON has consented to distribute the certificates to the successful candidates in the late Oxford local examination at a public meeting, which is to be held at the Carlton Arms, Southampton, on Friday, the 11th inst.

JOSEPH MAUDSLAY, Esq., the eminent engineer, Lambeth, died last week, in the sixty-first year of his age.

IT IS SAID THAT LORD STAMFORD has purchased this year no less than £11,000 worth of yearlings.

THE COMMISSIONERS OF EDUCATION have sanctioned the erection of a district model school in Enniskillen, and the erection of the building will be proceeded with immediately.

ON THE 1st INST. the London daily *Times* reduced its price to 3d. unstamped and 4d. stamped.

THE WAR AUTHORITIES have taken the first steps towards the erection of the new cavalry barracks at Colchester, for which a Parliamentary grant of £60,000 was made during the last Session, but of which only £10,000 will be payable this year.

A VERY HANDSOME MONUMENTAL TABLET of white Carrara marble has just been finished, and will shortly be erected near Mount Pottinger, in the county of Down, to the memory of Lieutenant-General Sir H. Pottinger, Bart., late Ambassador to China.

A MEMORIAL, erected at Stratford, near London, to commemorate the public services and private worth of the late Samuel Gurney, was formally opened on Monday. It consists of a handsome obelisk and a set of drinking-fountains.

THE HON. THOMAS WYER, British Minister at Athens, writes to *Galignani* to say that the lady married recently to General Turr "has no right or title to assume the name of Wyse."

THE FEDERAL COUNCIL OF SWITZERLAND has entered into negotiations with Holland for the conclusion of a treaty of commerce.

LETTERS FROM PESTH speak of harsh measures just taken by the Vienna Government with respect to several captains of the Austrian Lloyd's steamers that ply up and down the Danube, and who have been ordered to abstain from entering Hungary. One of the parties affected by this order is a British subject, and it is said, will suffer severely from its operation.

BARTHOLOMEW WITTMAYER, valet of Count Apponyi, Austrian Ambassador, threw himself from the top of Chandos House, where the Count resides, the other day, and was killed on the spot.

E. de COURCEY, who formerly held a commission in the Turkish Contingent during the Crimean War, has tendered his services to the American Government, which has accepted them.

THE BORING OF THE ARTESIAN WELL AT PASSY seems now to have reached the sheet of water so long expected. On Tuesday about noon a stream gushed forth in considerable volume.

THE *Northern Press*, a Roman Catholic newspaper, published at Liverpool, together with the stock, goodwill, &c., was sold by auction last week, and purchased by the proprietor of a Glasgow paper for £300.

A MISSOURI PAPER recently informed its readers that the "wife crop of Gasconade county in 1860 was 25,000 gals." The next number corrected the error by putting "wine" in the place of "wife."

A MAN NAMED JOHN HESKETH committed suicide by drowning himself in a pond on Hampstead Heath on Saturday last.

A RUSSIAN LINE-OF-BATTLE SHIP, the SWELLANA, of 100 guns and 800 men, has been lost on the coast of Japan. All the crew are said to have perished.

SHARKS have recently been seen off the Isle of Wight. Bathes are advised to be on their guard.

ON THE 25th OF AUGUST, in Sacramento River, the steamer J. A. McLeod exploded, killing fifteen, and badly scalding a great many more of the passengers.

ON SUNDAY LAST THE BISHOP OF LONDON, who has just returned from a tour on the Continent, consecrated the new church dedicated to St. Michael at Faddington.

THE PORTUGUESE CONSUL AT PARIS has received information that since the 26th ult. all ships arriving from St. Nazaire have been admitted into the port of Lisbon without having to undergo quarantine.

THE SUBSCRIPTIONS TO COUNT CAVOUR'S MONUMENT now amount to 89,965*l*. The list is to be closed at the end of the present year.

LETTERS FROM PESTH mention that the Hungarian ladies now wear as ornaments black bracelets called "Souvenirs of Arad." The names of the revolutionists executed at Agram form the anagram, "Hungary forgets not the dead."

THE CEREMONY OF SWEARING-IN THE SHERIFFS OF LONDON—Messrs. Cockerell and Twentyman—took place on Saturday last. The Under-Sheriffs are Messrs. Farrar and Gammon.

A PARTY OF MOORISH ACROBATS have arrived in England, per *Euxine* steamer, with the intention of performing in this country. One is a tight-rope-lancer, and it is expected, will be a formidable rival to Blondin.

THE *Sentinel* of Brescia says:—"On the 3rd of October Austria will set at liberty the Molinese political prisoners who have been incarcerated in the dungeons of Mantua since 1859."

THE PUNJAB CORRESPONDENT OF THE *Englishman*, under date the 10th ult., writes:—"The season for sowing cotton has passed, and more cotton has been sown than in any former year."

A FARM SERVANT, named Samuel Garner, has been sentenced to fourteen days' imprisonment by the justices of Market Harborough, Leicestershire, for being two hours longer about some business than his master thought he should have been!

LIVERPOOL is at present infested with a gang of burglars, who carry out their depredations with the most consummate skill. Within the last few days several daring robberies have been committed, the victims being mostly pawnbrokers and jewellers, and the property stolen of the most valuable description.

THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT is said to be trying the merit of an invention by which a soldier, heavily accoutred, is able to walk on the water without sinking. This wonderful contrivance consists of a pair of indiarubber boots and trousers in one piece, filled with air a little below the waist, and heavily weighted at the feet.

A FEW NIGHTS AGO some thieves entered the Church of St. Eustache, in Paris, and stole the contents of sixteen of the boxes placed there to receive the contributions of the charitable; and, as they had not been emptied for some time, it is supposed that they contained a considerable sum.

THE MUSEUM AND THE SCHOOL OF SCIENCE AT LIVERPOOL are to be opened about the 10th inst. Earl Granville, the Lord President of the Council, has accepted an invitation to be present at the inauguration; and other noblemen and gentlemen are expected.

WE (*Critic*) hear there is some likelihood that we shall have the third and fourth volumes of Mr. Carlyle's "History of Frederick the Great" in the course of the winter. The third volume is printed, and the fourth well advanced. Both will be somewhat bulkier than the first and second.

AN AMERICAN PAPER says that petitions have been presented to the Government asking for the expulsion of Mr. W. H. Russell, the *Times* correspondent, on the ground that he is "a public enemy who should not be tolerated in the present crisis of affairs."

THE TRUSTEES OF THE BRITISH MUSEUM have purchased the fine collection of Dudley fossils made by Mr. John Gray, of Hagley, and consisting of more than 2000 specimens. Many of them are figured in Sir H. Murchison's "Siluria," in the "Memoirs of the Geological Survey," "Transactions of the Palaeontographical Society," and "Journal of the Geological Society of London."

THE STROMBOLI AND CHANTICLER are both hourly expected to be commissioned at Portsmouth, to reinforce the West India squadron, with reference, most probably, to expected operations on the coast of Mexico.

BARBERS, THE REPUBLICAN, is now seriously ill in Holland; and the climate of that country is, it appears, so unfavourable for his health that all his friends have recommended him to return to France, and to take up his residence on a small estate he possesses in the environs of Carcassonne.

THE INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION OF 1862 is already an assured success, so far as the quantity of articles to be exhibited is concerned. So great has been the demand for space that the commissioners officially announced in Tuesday's *Gazette* that no further applications can be entertained.

STATISTICAL RETURNS show that the number of deaths from railway accidents is, on an average, in England, 1 in 556,000 travellers; in France, 1 in 1,950,000; in Belgium, 1 in 8,860,000; and in Prussia, 1 in 17,500,000.

A CAPTAIN DURANT was found suffocated in a ditch on the Sandwich-road, near Ramsgate, on Sunday morning; but how he met his death has not been ascertained. It is stated that the unfortunate gentleman was insane.

THE BARONS DE BAUMBACH was tried at Bursaal, Baden, last week, on a charge of attempting to poison her husband, but acquitted. The Baron did not believe in her guilt, and had refused to take part in the prosecution. The charge originated in the kitchen tittle-tattle of the servants.

THE FOURTH SESSION OF THE INTERNATIONAL PHILANTHROPIC CONGRESS will be held in London in 1862, on occasion of the Great Exhibition.

BASTED PAPER-MILLS, Kent, were partially destroyed by fire last week.

JUDGE HALIBURTON, M.P., the author of "Sam Slick," was in Toronto on the 11th ult., and, it was expected, would shortly visit Montreal and Quebec.

MR. BUNCE, the British Consul at Charleston, is said to have written to New York mentioning that considerable distress prevailed in the South. He was unable to obtain his salary, and denominated himself "a reduced consul."

THE SUBJECTS OF THE KING OF WURTEMBERG have been celebrating the eightieth anniversary of the birthday of their Sovereign, who is the oldest monarch in Europe.

ROBERT MILLER, a local preacher among the Primitive Methodists, has been committed for trial at North Shields on a charge of having embezzled considerable sums, the funds of the Royal Liver Friendly Society, of which he was the agent for Newcastle and Shields.

ON TUESDAY EVENING MR. SPURGEON delivered a lecture on the gorilla in the Metropolitan Tabernacle to an audience of over 5000 persons. Mr. Lynam, M.P., occupied the chair; and the proceeds of the lecture are destined to aid the operations of the Band of Hope (Temperance) Union.

DEREFORT, the Seneca Indian, has won another match, having beaten Levett, the Irish champion runner, at Dublin, when he performed the ten miles in fifty-two minutes and a few seconds.

AN INQUEST was held on Tuesday on the body of Sarah Essex, another victim of the railway disaster at Kentish-town, and a verdict of "Manslaughter" returned against Rayner.

The *Ami de la Religion* announces that the Count de Chambord is about to undertake a voyage to Constantinople.

THE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL OF LYONS has just voted a sum of 600,000*l*. for establishing workshops for the occupation of unemployed workmen.

THE TENANCY on the estates of the late Lord Aberdeen, in the parishes of Tarves, Methlic, &c., Aberdeenshire, are raising a subscription with the view of erecting a monument to the memory of his Lordship.

THE *Semaphore* of Marseilles announces the arrival in that city on Saturday of Sir Henry Bulwer, English Ambassador at Constantinople.

ROYAL NATIONAL LIFE-BOT INSTITUTION.—A meeting of this institution was held on Thursday, when rewards amounting to £19 were voted to the crews of the institution's life-boats stationed at Holyhead, Camber, and Dundalk, for saving seventeen persons from the wrecked vessels—brig *Anne*, of Plymouth; schooner *Betsey*, of Peterhead; barque *Frederick*, of Dublin; and the barge *Peace*, of London. Rewards amounting to £18 were also voted to the crews of the life-boats of the society stationed at Deal, Tyrella, and Llandudno, for putting off to vessels which had signals of distress flying, but which did not afterwards require their services. A reward of £7 was also voted to five constables and a civilian for very laudable services in saving life from a capsized boat on the coast of Clare. The thanks of the institution, inscribed on vellum, were voted to Mr. Maxton, collector of customs at Bridport, in testimony of his general services in aiding to save life from wrecks. A reward of £1 was voted to Mr. Dewsbury, master of the steam-tug *Beaufort*, of Sunderland, and his crew, for rescuing four men from the brigantine *Villiers*, of London, which was wrecked during equally weather on the Mumbles Head on the 3rd ult. Various other rewards were also voted for saving life. It was reported that the institution had sent new life-boats during the present month to Southport and Scarborough, and that very satisfactory trials had been made with them in the locality. The costs of these boats had been presented to the institution by two benevolent gentlemen. Communications were read from the Mayor of Ipswich and Mr. W. B. Byng, stating that a general collection in all the churches and chapels in that town would be made on Sunday, the 10th of November, in aid of the funds of the society. The demands on the institution continue, we regret to say, to be very heavy, and payments amounting to £1000 on life-boat establishments were ordered again at this meeting. It is to be hoped the public will continue to strengthen the hands of the committee, to enable them to carry on during the ensuing winter the operations of this truly national and merciful institution.

PROTECTIONISM IN BELGIUM.—The inhabitants of Brussels last week celebrated the anniversary of their national independence, and the friends of Free Trade organised a meeting on the occasion in the great hall of the Mansion House. There were some opponents at the meeting, who made an attempt to applaud an orator who said that the meeting ought, previous to entering on the question of free trade, to oppose the attempts of the English manufacturers to oppress the Belgians by means of a treaty of commerce. This opposition was quite unexpected, and the arguments used were still more extraordinary. It was alleged that in the year 1715 an unjust treaty was imposed on Belgium by England. At a later period the Ostend Company was suppressed through the combined influence of England and Holland. In 1815, after the re-establishment of peace, the Belgian markets were invaded by English merchants and Belgian industry destroyed. In 1839 Belgium lost 350,000 of her fellow-citizens, of whom she was deprived by English influence. These statements were vehemently applauded by the Protectionist party, and cries of "A bas les Anglais!" were heard. Great confusion was imminent, when the chairman called in the police to maintain order. The disturbance became greater, and the quieter portion of those present quitted the hall. After a discussion which lasted four hours, the Free traders succeeded in carrying a resolution in favour of a treaty of commerce with England. There exists in Belgium the remains of an antiquated prejudice against England which interested parties can always take advantage of.

THE POET NICCOLINI.—The *Tuscan Monitor* of the 22nd gives a full description of the funeral procession which accompanied the body of the Italian tragic poet, G. B. Niccolini, to the grave. It took place by torch-light, and was composed of people from every corner of Italy. The corners of the pall were held by Marquis Bartolommei, Gonfaloniere of Florence; the Abbé Lambruschini, senator; Prince Ferdinand Strozzi, President of the Academy of Fine Arts; and the Chevalier Brunone Bianchi, prosecretary of the Academy of La Crusca. The Municipal Council, Marquis Ridolfi, President of the Exhibition, the Professors of the Faculties, and other distinguished personages, immediately followed the bier, and the streets through which the procession passed were lined with national guards. At the Church of Santa Croce, where the last funeral rites were performed, Professor Atto Vanucci read an appropriate speech.

FIRE AT CAPESTHORNE HALL.—A great calamity befell Capesthorpe Hall, in Cheshire, the seat of A. H. Davenport, Esq., on Saturday night. A fire broke out near the top of the house, and before the engines could be procured from the neighbouring towns the flames had acquired such a hold that the stately mansion and most of its valuable furniture were destroyed. There was a poachers' riot a few evenings ago on Mr. Davenport's estate: there is a suspicious connection, in point of time at least, between the two events.

THE LOUNGER AT THE CLUBS.

The contest for the mayoralty is over. Sir Henry Muggersidge, finding from the state of the poll that he had no chance of being nominated by the livery, having retired from the field. A notification to this effect was published by Sir Henry's committee on Wednesday afternoon. Lord Mayor Cubitt is thus secured in another year's tenure of the civic chair.

The idea of March is the time fixed upon for a Ministerial crisis by our political quidnuncs. If the Government can get safely past the idea of March they will be able to tide over the Session; for in May the Great Exhibition is to open, and a Ministerial crisis and a dissolution of Parliament are not to be thought of when all the world will be rushing up to the Kensington show. Now, whether we shall have a crisis and a dissolution—for if we have the one the other must follow—will depend very much upon the success of Gladstone's Budget of last year. If his calculations shall prove to have been correct, I do not think that the Government will be endangered; but on the other hand, he has to confess that he was too sanguine, and that, instead of having a surplus, a deficiency must be provided for, the temptation, I apprehend, will be too strong for the Conservatives to resist. At present, however, I see nothing to shake my confidence in Gladstone's calculations. It is true that there is a falling off in the last quarter's revenue, and there has been great joy amongst the young Conservative expectants of office, whose politics, as Disraeli has told us, are £1200 a year; but there is nothing here to justify their hopes. There is a decrease in the income tax of £1,200,000, but that was in a great measure expected and provided for. It arises from the lowering of the tax from 10d. to 9d. in the pound, from the fact that last year two quarterly payments were collected in the September quarter, and from the delay in taking the vote last Session. In the excise there is also a deficiency under the head of malt and hops, but here the deficiency is explicable. The Chancellor made the maltster pay up close last year, and, of course, you cannot eat your apple and have it; and, further, last year was a very bad year for both malt and hops, especially for the former. A sample of good malting barley was a rarity in 1860; but this year will balance the deficiency of last. The malt this season is superb in quality, and not far below an average in quantity. Indeed, I learn on every hand that such a season for good malting barley has not been known for years. On the other hand, the Post Office shows an increase of £700,000 on the quarter, and £100,000 on the year. The net decrease on the year amounts to £1,603,817. To this will have to be added another decrease of £500,000 on the next quarter's income tax, and £700,000 for lost paper duty, making altogether about £2,800,000—a formidable sum, no doubt; but then it was expected and provided for. The customs show an increase of £24,000, which will be, no doubt, largely added to during the next quarter, as from the 1st of October the French Treaty comes into full operation. We may also expect another increase from the Post Office as a consequence of the removal of the paper duty. On the whole, then, notwithstanding the disturbance of our trade by the American War, there is no cause for alarm. The *Times* of Oct. 1 views things hopefully, and, though it battled very vigorously against Gladstone's scheme at the time, it now seems to think that it may possibly save us from "fearful reverses and a general collapse of credit."

The correspondent of the *Liverpool Albion*, who, notwithstanding his odd way of communicating his knowledge, is usually well informed, especially on all questions touching Rome and Italy, tells us that the old Gothic palace of the Popes at Avignon is undergoing repair and embellishment, and he would hence have his readers infer that at no distant day it will probably be again occupied by the Holy Father. When the removal will be accomplished, if it be destined to happen, it is hard to say; but certainly the repair and embellishment of this antique palace looks as if a tenant were ready—willingly or unwillingly—to occupy it. Perhaps the Holy Father may at last be brought to his senses, and without compulsion, other than secret and gentle, consent to solve the Roman question by quietly taking himself out of the way. His antecedents, however, and all that we know of him, hardly warrant us in expecting such a solution. It is more likely that the hero of the coup d'état will some fine morning settle the knotty question in his own manner. Secret orders will be issued to the General in command; and, at the appointed hour, a coach will be at the door of the Vatican, a steamer at Civita Vecchia, and, before the citizens shall have breakfasted, the Pope will be gone. This was how Pius VII. was spirited off to Savona in 1809 by Napoleon I. A certain Colonel Radet, with a party of gendarmes, sealed the walls of the Palace; and, having a carriage waiting, before the Romans were up they had lost their Pope. And Napoleon III. is fond of making history repeat itself.

The controversy on the "Essays and Reviews" has nearly lost its interest with the public. The question, however, may possibly turn up again in formal shape before the courts of law, and then it will excite as much interest as the great "Gorham controversy." Meanwhile I hear that there is a pause. At first, certain zealots were rushing at once into a legal fight; but before this could be done there were preliminaries to be observed and consultations to be held, and it is now whispered that, these preliminary steps having been taken, the zeal of the zealots is by no means so fiery as it was. If the question could be settled in Convocation or in a conclave of Bishops there would be no difficulty; but it cannot. It must go before a Civil Court if it go before a Court at all, and ultimately to the House of Lords; and lawyers are apt to look upon these controversial matters from a very different point of view to that which is occupied by Bishops and clergymen. For example, your lawyer will want to know what statute, what written law, these men have broken. The unwritten law will not do here; for though no doubt the Church has an unwritten law as well as the State, it is so hazy and misty, has been so liable to change with changing times and to take the impression of the age, and has never been collected into form by decisions as the unwritten law of the State has, that an appeal to it would be utterly hopeless. Now, it is certain, I understand, that the Essayists have not broken any written law. The main question which they have raised is the question of the inspiration, or rather the absolute infallibility, of the Scriptures; and on this question there is no written law; for neither in the Articles nor in the canons is there a word about it. This is singular, and may admit of two explanations. Some say the reason is that the framers of the Articles, &c., never dreamed that this doctrine of Scripture infallibility would be impugned; others, that it is doubtful whether the fathers of the Protestant Church held it rigidly as our modern divines. But, whichever explanation may be correct, it is quite certain that there is no article setting forth or defending the doctrine; and, in the absence of positive law, it seems to be impossible that the Essayists and Reviewers can be convicted of crime, and, consequently, equally impossible that they can be visited with punishment. On the subject-matter of the controversy I say nothing—your columns are not the place for religious disputes. All I do here is to note the topics of the day as they pass, and comment upon them; and as some of your readers may be anxious to know the *locus in quo* of this business, here it is. The Bishops are as willing to wound as ever, but prudence makes them afraid to strike. Like others hampered by law, they are obliged to

I dare not wait upon I would,
Like the poor cat 'i' the adage.

The savans who were appointed to inquire into the decay of the work in the new palace of Westminster have met, laid their heads together, and made their report. But they have told us nothing that we did not know before as to the history of the decay, and they suggest little or nothing in the way of stopping its progress. All they say upon the latter point is this—"They have a confident expectation that a remedy will soon be found to arrest or control the decay where it has unfortunately begun to

appear." This and no more, which is very little, seeing that the savans were fourteen in number, and all eminent men. Every man who has been in the habit of watching the Houses of Parliament knew as much as these savans have reported; and of course we can all hope, though I, for one, can hardly say I expect, that the decay will be arrested. Whether it will be "controlled" I will not venture to give an opinion, as I really do not know what is meant by controlling decay. These savans further seem to be puzzled that the decay in the exposed parts of the building appears to be slighter than it is in the less exposed; but everybody, except a savan, surely would expect this to be so; for, as a rule, "decay's edifying fingers" are always more busy in close, confined, and consequently damp situations, than in those exposed to the air. They seem also surprised that the decay occurs about the mouldings and cornices. I have, however, noticed this without surprise. The simple fact is that these projections are not of sufficient depth, nor of the right shape, to shoot off the wet. They are more for ornament than use; while they are less ornamental, because they are less useful, than they would have been if they had been deeper, more slanting, and made hollow underneath. Instead of shooting off the wet, as all such projections are intended to do, they hold it. This want of boldness in the projections is one of the great faults of the building.

The death of Mr. Arthur Smith, which took place at his residence in Wilton-street on Tuesday afternoon, leaves a void in a certain circle of London society which will not easily be filled. He was but little known to the general public, for he was by nature quiet and unobtrusive, and the details of his work, though all-essential to the business in which he was engaged, were not such as to call for public recognition. He had the entire management of the Egyptian Hall, and all the various arrangements for the comfort of the visitors and the elegant appearance of the place were mainly due to his planning brain and his active hands. He had also under his direction the entire business arrangements of Mr. Charles Dickens's Readings; and, to show how highly his practical talent was esteemed, we may mention that an important position in connection with the International Exhibition of 1862 was offered to him, but declined on account of his failing health. Between him and his brother Albert there existed an affection "passing the love of women." He has never been the same man since Albert died, and within eighteen months he will be laid by him in the same grave. Though only known in literature as the author of one sportive and witty little book, "The Thames Angler," he was possessed of a vein of genuine humour of a very quaint nature, and many of the stories with which his brother delighted the public were originated by him. Mr. Arthur Smith was one of the simplest-minded and kindest-hearted men in the world. In the dedication to the story of "Mont Blanc" his brother speaks of him as "a man without one enemy." A word of envy or detraction was never heard to pass his lips, but he

Would, against his own conviction, fain
Have all men true and loyal; all women pure.

He was eminently charitable; he founded the Fielding Fund for the immediate relief of the literary and theatrical destitute, and his purse was never closed against a genuine claim. His death, at the early age of thirty-six, will be mourned by a very large circle of friends, for no man ever made himself more thoroughly esteemed and beloved.

Another name in the obituary is that of Mr. Tilt, formerly a well-known publisher in Fleet-street, in partnership with the late Mr. Bogue.

A brother-in-law of Mr. Walker, of the Gaboon, has written to the *Athenaeum* repudiating the attacks of the Du Chailu opponent. The little traveller himself was present at the Spurgeon Tabernacle on Tuesday night, when the low-comedy minister, under the auspices of Mr. Austen Layard, gave a facetious lecture on the gorilla.

We hear that the introduction to the official Library Catalogue for the International Exhibition is to be written by Mr. John Hollingshead, whose clear head and powers of picturesque description specially qualify him for the task.

The Exhibition of Dogs in Holborn was well worth a visit. There was a capital show of nearly all specimens, and my old friend the hybrid attracted great attention. The newly-opened horse repository made a very convenient and fitting locale, but the entrance is very bad, and, surrounded as it was the entire day by a crowd of roughs, was anything but inviting.

What will become of those great pets of all children the "performing mules" from Messrs. Howes and Cushing's circus? At a recent sale they were bought by the eminent Tom Sayers, and this, with other purchases, would lead us to believe that the great ex-champion is going into a new "line."

THE LITERARY LOUNGER.

THE MAGAZINES.

The present number of the *Cornhill* is a vast improvement on several of its predecessors. Not that the story of Philip makes much way, or that it differs in the least from all its predecessors. All the old characters are repeated under different names. Philip himself is merely a rougher and more disagreeable Arthur Pendennis, or Clive Newcome (indeed, by a slip of the pen or with laudable ingenuity, the author in one place this month calls his hero "Clive"), Lord Ringwood is an exaggerated Marquis of Steyne, Mrs. Baynes is Mrs. Mackenzie, the Muford is Bungay, and all the minor characters have their prototypes in former works. But, with all these drawbacks, the story is very pleasant reading, and though Mr. Thackeray may have exhausted his power of plot-weaving, his marvellous world-knowledge yet remains, and no one can tire of his quiet by-the-way moralisings, or cease to wonder at his thorough acquaintance with the secret workings of the human heart. There are two essays, one on "Force," the other on "Physiognomy," the latter being incomparably the best. The writer's arguments in favour of physiognomy are sound and well balanced, and the manner in which he shows the reason for many of the manifest shortcomings of phrenology is striking and novel. There is a good and interesting descriptive paper on "The Herring Harvest," and Mrs. Howitt's verses, "Barbara Fleming's Fidelity," are infinitely nearer true poetry than anything that has appeared in *Cornhill* pages since the publication of Mr. Tennyson's "Titlones." Mr. Doyle's cartoon of "The Picture Sale," too, is the best of the new series. There is more individual character in many of the faces, and less crowding and confusion in the arrangement of the drawing. The blots on the number are the serial stories of "The Struggles of Brown, Jones, and Robinson," and "Agnes of Sorrento." The former is vulgar in the highest degree, without a spark of true wit, and full of a constant, painful striving after humour; the latter is simply dreary.

In *Temple Bar* Mr. Sala shows some evidence of being about to bring his story, "The Seven Sons of Mammon," to a conclusion. The arch-conspirator of the tale, Mrs. Armytage, would appear to have finished the catalogue of her crimes, as she is arrested on Epsom Downs attainted with heavy charges, amongst which figures one of murder. The end of Sir Jasper Goldthorpe is also looming in the future. Mr. Sala's facile pen has never been more happy than in his description of the Derby Day and the frequenters of the great saturnalia. Without outspoken boldness he attacks the miserable chicanery of the "sporting world" as at present constituted—an expose which has earned for him the honour of a vilification in the columns of the *Sporting Life*. "Our Pet Social Doctor" is an essay laudatory of infant training generally, and of the services of Mr. Wilderspin in particular, pleasantly conveying much interesting information. Mr. Oxenford contributes a paper full of scholarly and profound thought, pungently expressed, on "The Preciousness of the Seventeenth Century," and in a few pages gives one a clear insight into many of the dusky corners of Molière's genius. The scientific essays of this month are on "The Pre-Adamite World" and on "Precious Stones;" and there is a profound though somewhat ponderous essay on "Thomas Gray

and the Literature of the Eighteenth Century." "Twice Told" is a good and short story, the farcical nature of the plot being redeemed by the sparkling manner in which it is narrated. There are also an interesting paper on "Cotton," a sketch of travel of hitherto unknown ground, called "Into the Schaffloch," and two pretty pieces of verse.

Fraser seems to rise with rivalry, and sends us this month an excellent number, full of variety. That profound thinker, and to many minds heterodox advocate, Mr. John Stuart Mill, leads the way with two chapters of an essay on "Utilitarianism;" then follows an instalment of Mr. G. A. Lawrence's new tale of "Barren Honour," written with all the sparkle and dash of "Guy Livingstone," and with, so far as we can yet judge, more fully developed reflective powers and worldly knowledge. A. K. H. B., always pleasant, sound, and healthy, gives an essay "Concerning People of whom more might have been made;" and a reviewer gossips, more kindly than is the usual wont of *Fraser*, on "Some Poets of the Year." There are also social essays on "Working in Gold" and "The Sunday Question;" the continuation of "Good for Nothing;" and, in place of the usual Chronicle of Current Events (which seems to be discontinued), a political paper on "Austria and Hungary."

Two new stories open in this month's *Blackwood*, "The Chronicles of Carlingford," and "Captain Clutterbuck's Champagne;" but both will require to be further perused before an opinion can be pronounced on their merits. Any one acquainted with the ordinary tenor of the monthly Tory organ can imagine what would be the view taken by an article entitled "Democracy Teaching by Example." There is a wise and kindly paper, full of thought and philanthropy, called "Meditations on Dyspepsia;" and a cynical slash at "Social Science" in general, and Lord Brougham and strong-minded women in particular. There is, however, much truth and sense to be found beneath the layer of sarcasm in this paper. The political article of the month is on the Italian question, "What seems to be happening now with the Pope."

The *St. James's Magazine* is decidedly improving. It has still the fault, already noticed, of giving so many different papers that no one subject has the necessary space allotted to it; but both the selection of the articles and the quality of those selected are better than at first starting. In this month's number Mr. Hood's lines on "Autumn" may be specially noticed as imbued with much of his father's taste and pathos. Why cannot Mr. Fairholt, for all his F.S.A. ship, quote correctly? The line is not "open as the day to sacred charity," but "open as day to melting charity." The criticism on Mr. Fechter's Hamlet is written in an enthusiastic and generous spirit, though in an eccentric manner.

The *Saturday Magazine* is a marvel of cheapness for those who delight in such literature. It is twenty *Family Herald*s rolled into one.

The first number of the *Popular Science Review*, intended for quarterly publication, has appeared, and gives good promise. Nothing tells better nowadays than scientific subjects treated in a familiar manner, and the present periodical seems a very happy example. Professors Hunt, Ansted, Buckman, and Mr. Gosse are among the contributors.

Dr. Forbes Winslow's *Psychological Journal* is continued with spirit. There is a highly interesting paper in this number on "The Aesthetics of Suicide."

THE THEATRICAL LOUNGER.

Any one in search of amusement—not high art nor moral teaching, but simply amusement—will find it in witnessing the new comedy, "Playing with Fire," at the PRINCESS'S. The author, Mr. John Brougham, has not attempted to be wise, or didactic, or smart; he has not suffered himself to be entrapped by the pitfalls tumbled into by nearly all the comedy-writers of modern days, but he has aimed at being entertaining, and has succeeded—a crime of which few of his confrères are guilty. His plot is very simple:—A young man, domestically inclined and doting on his wife, finds her occasionally melancholy, and, dreadfully annoyed thereat, consults his intimate friend, a doctor, to know what course to pursue. The doctor advises a little flirtation, and suggests that some friend on whom he could rely should be asked to flirt with the lady. The husband agrees, and induces the doctor to take the part of *intriguer*. Meanwhile, the wife has consulted her friend, the doctor's wife, and received similar counsel. She is advised to flirt with some one—say the doctor, while his wife will overhear. The plot is carried out, but it seems too real: each, playing well his and her part, seems really to care for the other. Jealousy on all sides, and duelling between the men, are the inevitable result; but, according to stage fashion, all is happily explained. There is an underplot, which is farcical to a degree, but well sustained by the humour of Mr. Widdicomb. Mr. Brougham's acting is worth seeing. I know no one on our stage who could so exactly represent the character he has imagined—the combination of quaintness and gentlemanly bearing. What is technically known as "eccentric light comedy" is admirable. Mr. G. Jordan played the husband. He has many physical requisites for the stage, but is full of Yankeeisms and mannerisms, and is very ponderous. However, he clearly knows his business, and under supervision will improve. Managers should keep their eyes upon Miss Rose Leclercq. She played the wife with a great deal of unaffected sweetness and quiet pathos.

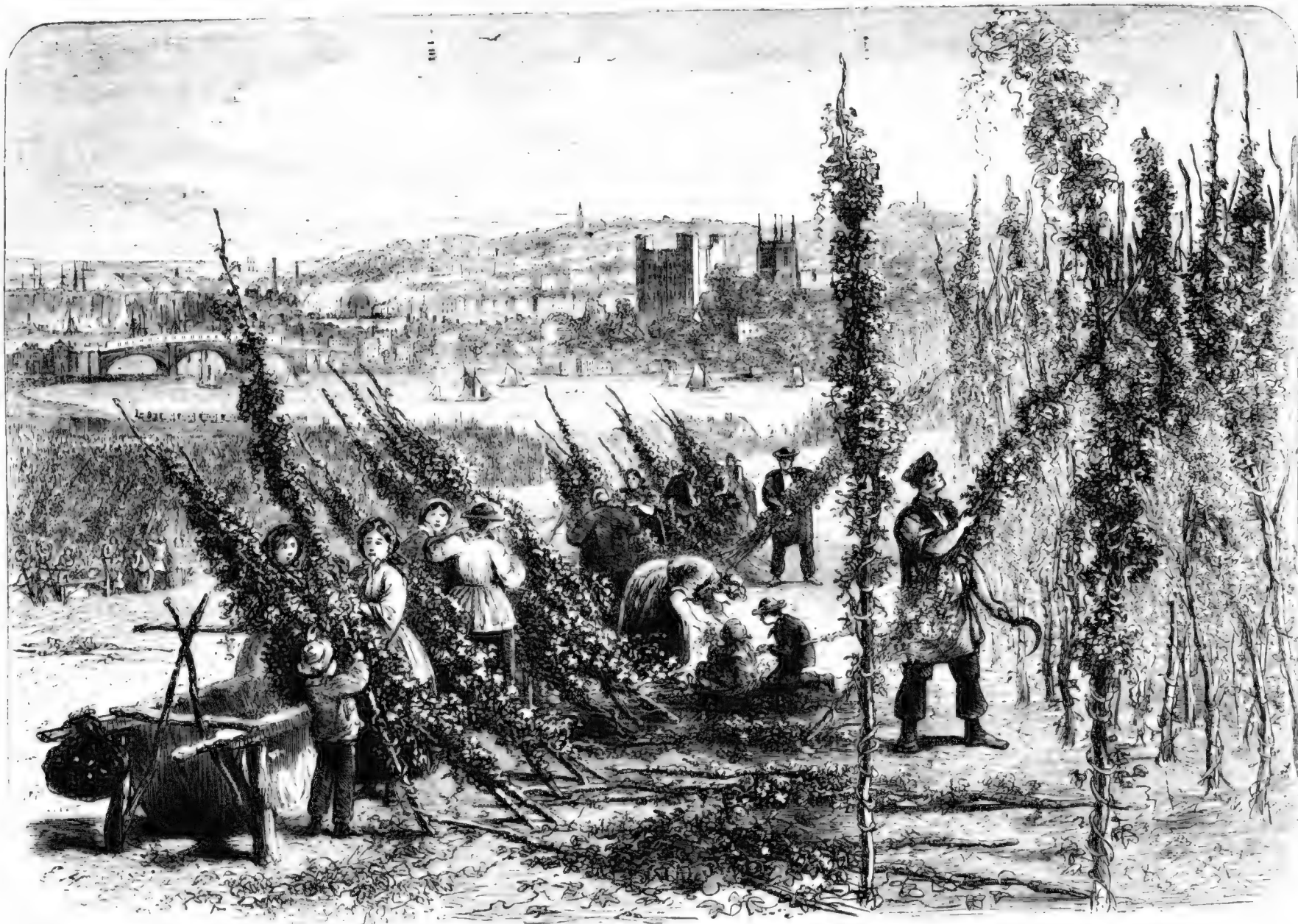
Mr. Edwin Booth, an American tragedian, has appeared at the HAYMARKET as Shylock. He reads the character quietly and with intelligence, but has made no hit, and will probably not be heard of in three months. Poor Mr. Rogers! so good in Yorkshiresmen, or comic servants, or facetious fathers, was made to appear as Antonio, for which even by appearance he is singularly unfitted. Mrs. Charles Young played Portia well; and, granted her monotonous delivery, which she apparently cannot free herself from, gave the "mercy" speech with good effect.

At the STRAND Mr. Byron has produced a burlesque on the subject of "Esmeralda," filled with the usual word-torturing, and successful in the highest degree. Fancy the life of a burlesque-writer!—fancy his dreams!—fancy his end!

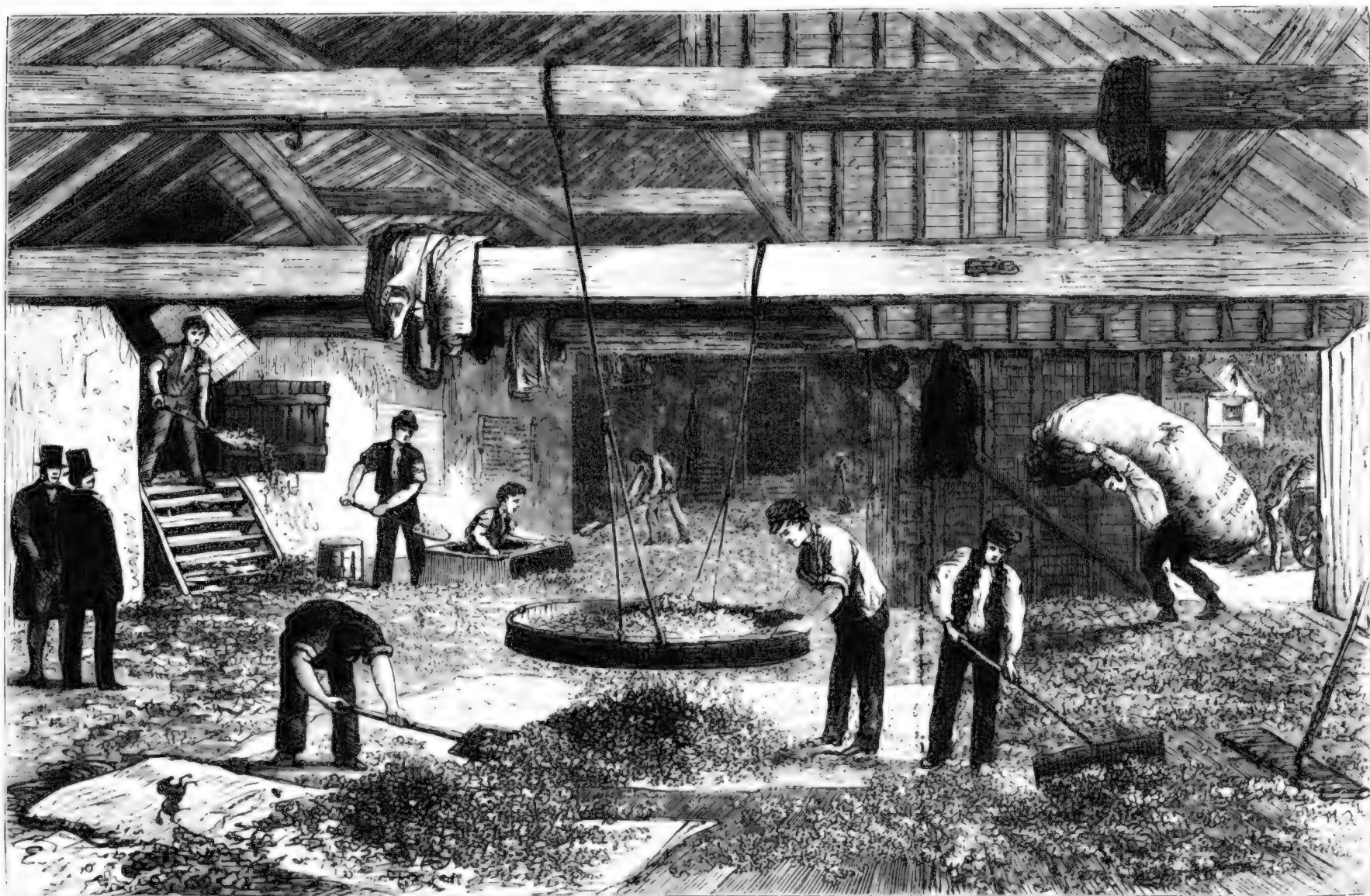
The ST. JAMES'S opens on the 11th inst.

Mr. William Farren, the celebrated comedian, died at his residence, in Brompton-square, on Tuesday week, in his 75th year. He retired from the stage several years ago, his last public appearance having been at the Haymarket on the 16th July, 1855, when he played Lord Ogleby on the occasion of his farewell benefit.

AMENITIES OF AMERICAN JOURNALISM.—Men of business have little difficulty in understanding the pleasure of having a mean, dishonest, and unscrupulous sneak for a next-door neighbour or a business competitor. Those who lack opportunities for appreciating the full delights of such a situation will do well to consider the case of newspaper editors, who are condemned to maintain a sort of business rivalry with "the bewhiskered and bearded" old ragsabond of the *Herald*. Without the slightest regard for truth—utterly ignorant of the meaning of personal honour—incapable even of understanding the degradations and ignominies that have been heaped upon him so long that he would miss a congenial stimulus if they were ever to be withheld—unscrupulous in his choice of means as in the ends he proposes, and ready to listen at the keyhole, purloin a private letter, betray business confidence, or commit any other outrage which might stab a rival or feed for a moment his own malignity, he makes himself as a business competitor very much what a hedgehog, or a skunk, or both combined, would be as a playfellow. Partly from instinct, partly from choice, he has copied his style of professional warfare from the military strategy of the Chinese. So long as these weapons will serve his turn, he relies on lying and treachery; when these fail, and the contest waxes desperate, he resorts to stinkpots. In this style of warfare he certainly manifests great skill—but his enemy, such as it is, is due mainly to the fact that he uses weapons which, from the necessity of the case, leave him the whole field to himself. Nine-tenths of his infamous cumulations pass without notice, simply because it is more disagreeable to have anything whatever to do with him than it is to submit to his slanders.—*New York Times*.



HOP-PICKING, NEAR ROCHESTER, KENT.



INTERIOR OF AN OASTHOUSE.

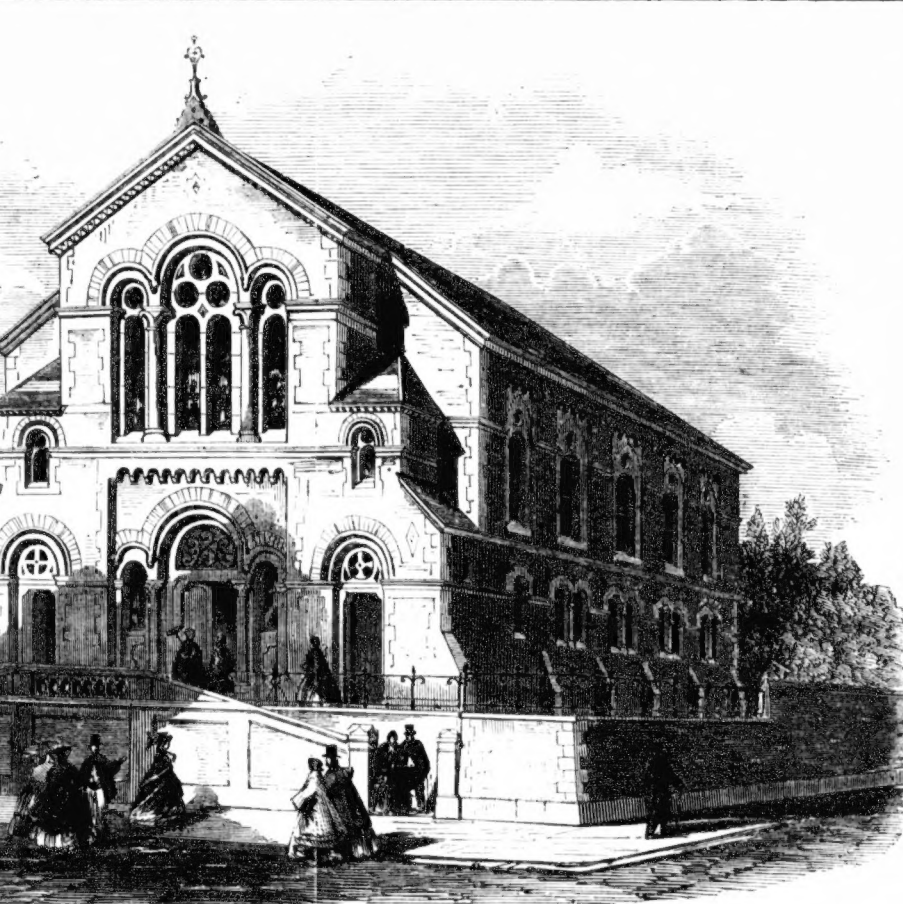
THE GREAT POCKET-PICKING.

TRUDGING manfully along—or, it should rather be said, up and down—the chalky, white-hot Kentish roads, with a glorious distance of green and gold lying in vast undulations beneath the autumn sky, right away to that edge of cloud where the cool sea surges—whirring and clattering on that interminable line of railway which, starting from Calais, leads no one knows where, but passes through the dusty tract of flat country near Lege—we are convinced, both by internal and external evidence, of the importance of an institution long held to be inseparable from British greatness, strength, independence and general well-being—I allude, of course, to beer. Not wishing to include in my general estimate of beer any Continental small-breeds known by that name, I only refer to the territory just mentioned as suggesting that beverage in relation, first, to material imported into Great Britain; and, more personally in relation to the experience of excessive thirst, not to be allayed by the stale tobacco-smoke pervading, as it seems, not the railway carriages only, but nature generally.

The fact is, that I am standing here under a tree on that same chalky road in Kent; that I have “done” my seven miles since breakfast; that I am warm, and find imagination, assisted by memory, referring to some former journeyings of mine; but there is no mistaking the locality, so I turn off at the milestone, and, being near the end of my journey, shall soon refresh myself with my national—I had almost said natural—drink in the midst of an English hop-garden.

There had been some company on the road earlier in the morning; and, indeed, most of the roads in that district had had their share of foot-passengers for the last day or two, the ordinary tramp giving way to, or being merged in, the gangs of “hoppers” going to their work—a motley crew enough, yet with some generic features: amongst the women, a peculiarity which led them to wear their bonnets at an acute angle with the brim drooping over their eyes like a penthouse thatch; amongst the men, a tendency to short pipes and a singular community in the matter of boots, which led to their being distributed unequally, or rather equally, since everybody wears odd ones; a tendency everywhere to the carrying of big, awkward bundles wrapped in bed-ticks or rusty counterpanes, those belonging to the women being as likely to reveal a black iron kettle as a stone bottle, and probably containing both, as well as a baby or so. As to the children old enough to take care of themselves, they are the very weeds of humanity, in whom raggedness has been elevated into a science, exhibited from the tufts of their shock heads to the soleless wellingtons, compared with which bare feet must be a luxury. I should certainly be better pleased with their companionship if they would for the time forego the recurrence to their ordinary pursuits and refrain from begging.

It is too rude a shock to our notions of the “true dignity of labour” to find that even well-paid work, as hop-picking certainly is, should have so little influence on the moral tone of these people; but it must be remembered that the “hopping” is but a brief



NEW CONGREGATIONAL CHAPEL, WESTGATE, BURNLEY.

season of plenty after all, and that the downcast face, drooping eye, and beggarly whine, are the ordinary stock-in-trade of half this tattered assembly. But all recollections such as these must be for a time dispersed, for here we are in the middle of the work, which is going on merrily under the very shadow of Rochester Tower by the pleasant Medway.

Here, in this beautiful English vineyard, we may sit all day long; and, while listening to the sound of the “puller’s” axe, the rustling of the loaded poles, and the clatter of tongues, in which the piercing twang of the Emerald Isle surely predominates, believe that no other land but Italy, and only there where the vines climb high, can show us such a scene. But these circling wreaths and tendrils, climbing the tall poles and hiding them amidst the profusion of pale and golden flowers, must come down speedily, for nothing is spared here for mere sentiment’s, or even beauty’s, sake. The festoons that wave in this light autumn breeze and hang so gaily from pole to pole are already destined to the picker’s bin, and here is the foreman picker himself apportioning the work. The bins are a sort of rough frame, constructed generally of hurdle stakes, about nine feet long and three wide, in which a canvas bag is suspended by hooks so as nearly, but not quite, to touch the ground. To each gang of pickers there is appointed a “pole-puller,” who takes out the poles, cuts the stems of the “bine” about three feet from the ground, and conveys the pole with the hop upon it to the bins, upon which it is laid in a sloping position. The pickers stand on each side of the bin, and generally pick two poles at a time. Even the little children sit upon the ground and separate the big bunches thrown to them by their friends: only an inverted umbrella serves

them in place of a bin. Indeed, old, gigantic umbrellas are a positive boon to the whole hop-picking fraternity, and generally form an important part of their few worldly effects, since they are used in the manner just mentioned, while in the heat of the day a host of babies lie asleep either in or under them. The wages depend on the yield of hops, but as much as eight shillings a day may be earned by a family of six or seven in a good season.

At Farnham, where they are very careful of the hops, since they are of a peculiarly fine quality, it is customary to use baskets in place of bins, and the bunches are divided into sorts, according to their degree of ripeness. In all cases the dew should be entirely off before the picking commences, as otherwise there will be danger of the hops becoming musty, or of taking too long to dry, and so losing their fragrance.

“And where do all these people go at night?” I ask.

“Go! Nowhere; they stay here, all of ‘em.”

“What! in the open air?”

“Open air! No. Don’t you see there a couple of big barns—plenty of room for the lot of ‘em—good, airy sleepin’ apartments?”

They are, certainly, since they have no more protection from the weather, than the feather-edged boards common to most barns; but it does not appear to me that they are convenient, though I believe this is owing to my want of appreciation. The

entire area was supplied with a layer of straw, which, in some cases, had been heaped somewhat into the form of beds, while an old quilt or two lay here and there. Altogether it was a strange, rough sort of gipsy encampment; and indeed a very large proportion of the company for whom it was intended were quite used to sleeping in no better way, and in certainly not such healthy quarters. I got over my first feelings of surprise somewhat by remembering that, in the times when the floors even of “great houses” were only strewn with rushes, the retainers who remained to finish the feast found themselves beds where they might, and snored on wooden settles or lay where they fell—under the table.

“That’s the kiln, I suppose?” I said, pointing to a brick-built place, cone-shaped, and evidently intended for some operation in which heat is the principal agent.

“Yes, that’s the ‘oasthouse,’” says my guide; “we may as well go and have a look at it.”

There isn’t much to see—a conical brick-built kiln, some 20ft. across, beneath the open floor of which is the furnace. Over the furnace is fitted a grating, covered with the “oastcloth,” a sort of haircloth blanket, on which the hops are laid to dry, under the superintendence of a man who must possess considerable powers of endurance, even with the liberal allowance of refreshment in the shape of ale and spirits generally claimed. The oasthouse will, I am told, dry 250 bushels of hops every twelve hours, ten hours being required for the perfect drying, while they take a day and night to cool before packing into the pockets.

As far as the average wages can be calculated, the pickers receive three-halfpence a bushel. This garden, which comprises some



hundred acres, produced about 250 bins, and gives employment to nearly 400 women and girls. There are twenty-five men (pole-pullers) to supply these with the poles and bines, and three measurers to reckon the work; while five men, with horses, fetch the hops home to the oasthouse and packing-loft.

There is some care required in regulating the heat so that the colour of the hop may not be altered. When the leaves become brittle and rub off easily they are sufficiently dried, although they are then sometimes laid in heaps upon the floor and heated slightly, after which they are bagged. It had long been a cause of wonderment with me how those enormous pockets were packed. I had seen them piled in huge stories upon creaking waggons, endangering not only the passengers but the very houses of London streets—had admired their huge bulk, and got from under their shadow as quickly as possible. But how was the thing done? Simply enough. From a round hole in the floor of the hop-loft is suspended the enormous bag, the mouth of which, passing through the hole, is kept open by, and fastened firmly to, a hoop some yard or so in diameter and rather larger than the hole—in the same principle as the bag which contains the coffee in the old-fashioned coffee-biggins. The bag being thus suspended without touching the ground beneath, a handful of hops is put into each corner and tied with a cord, an arrangement which affords a convenient handle for future removal. As each bushel or two of hops are thrown into the bag, a man gets into it and treads them tight. These must be the only men who can realise the feelings of a kitten being conveyed to a new residence. As the hops are packed by the feet, more are continually added till the bag is full. It is then taken off the hoop, the filling completed with the hands, the mouth sewed up, and the two upper corners tied in the same way as the lower ones, and the big bundle stored in some dry place to await its companions. The operation of treading a pocket, which weighs about a hundredweight and a half, rarely takes more than twenty-five minutes. Even while I write, the great ingathering of the hops is completed, and the last country market will be held while this paper is being printed; the rumble of waggons will be heard in the borough of Southwark, where the hopfactors are to be found hard at work; heavy payments will be made, and important wagers settled. Speaking of wagers, it was once one of the terrible adjuncts of the hop trade that the spirit of gambling seemed to take possession of those concerned in it, and the enormous amounts of money staked upon the probable crops, and consequent amount of duty, even exceeded the sum represented by the value of the article. I am glad to learn that this evil system has wellnigh died out, and that, beyond a few bets made by eminent sporting brewers and some others, the proceeding is no longer recognised.

Now will commence the October brewing, and the crops from the various gardens of Kent, Surrey, and Sussex will find their destination—the "goldings" of Middle and East Kent, the delicately-flavoured "white bines" of Farnham and Canterbury (both of which go to the preparation of bitter ale, and give to its delicious aroma and tonic properties), the "Joneses" (noted as being "good croppers" and requiring only short poles), the ordinary "grape," and the rank "coleagues" of Sussex and the Wealds of Kent.

It is around Rochester and Canterbury that the best Kentish hops are grown, while the rich Farnham hops of Surrey command the highest price in the market. The hops of Worcester, too, are celebrated for their extraordinary mildness and quick ripening. The Worcesters, indeed, are believed to be descendants of the Flemish red bine; and this reminds me that, notwithstanding the eulogium of beer in Britain and Britain in beer with which I began, hops have only been introduced into this country since 1524, the first having been brought either from the Low Countries or from Artois soon after the expedition against Tournay in the reign of Henry VIII. Difficulties had to be contended with, however, for in 1530 we find an order of that Monarch forbidding sulphur and hops to be used by the brewers, a fact which seems to indicate that the treatment of hops with sulphur has come down to us from a very early date. Early in the seventeenth century, again, we learn that the city of London petitioned Parliament against Newcastle coals because of their stench, and against hops because they would spoil the taste of drink and endanger the health of the people.

The good qualities of the plant had asserted themselves, however; for even in 1640 Parkinson says:—"The ale which our forefathers were accustomed only to drink, being a kind of thicker drink than beer, is now almost quite left off to be made, the use of hoppers to be put therein altering the quality thereof, to be much more healthful or rather physical, to preserve the body from the reptation of gross humours which the ale engendereth." That hops should have become a valuable part of our agricultural produce is little wonder when it is considered that an average of ten pounds an acre for manure over a hundred acres of hops is the expense at which they are farmed. That they had always to be liberally considered may be gathered from the quaint verse of Tusser, who lived in the time of the eighth Henry, and in his "Points of Husbandry" thus says:—

Choose soil for the hop of the rottenest mould,
Well dooned and wrought as a garden plot should:
Not far from the water (but not overlowne),
This lesson, well noted, is meet to be knowne.

The sun in the south, or else southlie and west,
Is joy to the hop as welcommed guest;
But wind in the north, or else northerly-east,
To hop is as ill as fray in a feast.

Meet plot for a hopyard, once found as is told,
Make thereof account as of jewel of gold;
Now dig it, and leave it the sun for to burne,
And afterwards fense it, to serve for that turne.

The hop for his profit I thus do exalt:
It strengtheneth drink, and flavoureth malt;
And, being well brewed, long keep it will last,
And drawing abide, if ye draw not too fast.

A very good song, and very well sung: and so, the evening sun shining through the few remaining poles, let us away to dinner and a cool tankard, and over both again talk over the scene in which we have borne so pleasant a part, drinking soberly to the success of the Temple Farm at Rochester, and to Mr. Alderman Everist, in whose garden our sketches have been taken.

NEW CONGREGATIONAL CHAPEL, WESTGATE, BURNLEY, LANCASHIRE.

This building, which has recently been opened, comprises chapel, schoolroom, lecture-room, vestry, infant classroom, four classrooms for senior scholars, library, and other apartments. The ground plan represents the letter L reversed (thus 7), the vertical line representing the chapel, the end of which fronts the Blackburn-road. The site is a very eligible plot of land, possessing approaches in front and rear and on the west side, and stands about ten feet above the road level. The front of the chapel is set back about twenty-five feet from the road boundary, and the space is occupied by a handsome double flight of stone steps and balustrade and an upper terrace or platform twelve feet wide. For the convenience of aged persons an inclined plane with easy gradient is formed parallel with the chapel and on the east side, by which the ascending steps may be avoided. There are three entrance doorways in the front of the chapel, and spacious lobbies and vestibules, each having two sets of folding-doors, exclusive of the outer doors. Two stone staircases lead to the galleries, which occupy the end and two sides of the building. In the rear is a semicircular recess for the organ 14ft. deep, and this is spanned by a semicircular arch 20ft. wide and 30ft. high. The level of the organ-gallery is 3ft. 6in. below the lowest platform of the galleries, and the effect of this arrangement is excellent both in appearance and for sound. The front of the organ-gallery projects 3ft. into the chapel, and in front of this is the pulpit, the floor of which is 5ft. 9in. above the ground floor. The dimensions of the chapel are as follow:—Length

internally, exclusive of organ-recess, 77ft. 9in.; length, inclusive of ditto, 91ft. 9in.; width, 50ft.; height from floor to wall-plate of roof, 29ft.; height from floor to centre ceiling, 39ft. Generally, the effect of the interior is pleasing in the extreme. The style of the building throughout is Lombardic in general treatment; but the aim of the architects has been to give the structure an essentially characteristic appearance rather than to adhere strictly to any style. The proportions and details throughout are good, and the exterior is both massive and elegant.

The schoolroom is connected with the chapel, and the floor is nearly level with the chapel gallery. Its dimensions internally are 60ft. by 30ft., and 24ft. from floor to ridge of roof, which is open-framed and plastered. Deal boarding, 4ft. high, is placed round the walls and closets, and other recesses are provided, as well as a room to be used as a library. Underneath the schoolroom are a lecture-room, 30ft. by 24ft., an infants' classroom, with gallery for 130 children, and three classrooms, for twenty-five scholars each. Two good stone staircases are provided for boys and girls respectively at each end of the schoolroom.

The walls of the building are of stone throughout, obtained from Catlow Quarry, six miles distant, and the roofs are covered with Welsh slate arranged in layers of red and blue. The total cost of the undertaking, exclusive of the land, which is the munificent gift of L. Massey, Esq., will be about £5500. This sum includes £250 for an organ, now being made. The architects to whom this work was intrusted are Mr. H. J. Paull, of Burnley, late of Cardiff, and his partner, Mr. Oliver Ayliffe.

FASHIONS FOR OCTOBER.

THE unusual mildness of the weather during the past week has caused dresses of light materials to be very generally worn.

Sleeves are made very full—open for evening dress and close at the wrist for morning and out-door costume. Low corsages still continue fashionable, with fichus of lace, either black or white. These fichus sometimes have long ends, which are crossed over the bosom and linked together at the back of the waist. Canezons and pelerines of rich worked muslin or lace are also worn with dresses of coloured silk.

A very elegant evening dress has been made of muslin, having a white ground, figured with a rich pattern in pompadour bouquets. The trimming consisting of plaitings formed of bands of muslin, hemmed at each edge. These plaitings are set on in transverse rows round the bottom of the skirt. A little interval left between each row of plaiting produces an effect of lightness.

Some very pretty dresses for the country have been made of grey poplin, and others of mohair, having delicate blue stripes on a white ground. The trimming of these dresses consists of a broad band of blue cachmere placed at a little distance from the edge of the skirt.

The Zouave corsage still maintains its favour. It is made sufficiently short to show at the back of the waist the point of the chemise which confines the chemisette bouffante. The open parts of the corsage are confined by lacings of thick silk. This style of corsage is extremely becoming to a slender figure.

Dresses suitable for dinner or evening costume in the country have been made of clear white muslin, to be worn over slips of coloured silk. They are very simple in style, being trimmed merely with muslin bouillonne, and they have long centures of ribbon, in colours corresponding with the slips. The sleeves of these dresses are very wide.

Among the newest bonnets of the season we may mention one of black tulle ornamented with a bouquet of maize-coloured roses. Another is of white tulle covered, or, as the Paris milliners term it, voilé, with black tulle. The trimming consists of an ornament of black velvet and a bouquet of pink roses. The under-trimming is an aureole of black velvet intermingled with rosebuds. Strings of broad white ribbon. A third bonnet, and one greatly admired, is made of white crin. It is trimmed on the outside, as well as under the brim, with bouquets of coquelicots mixed with white wheat-ears. The bavette, of white silk, is covered with a fall of black lace, and the strings are of broad ribbon chequered in black and white.

THE ILLUSTRATIONS.

Fig. 1.—Dress of grey moire, figured with small sprigs. A black velvet mantle, with pelerine of guipure. The sleeves are in the style called *manches simulées*—that is to say, they are not real sleeves, but are attached to the back breadth of the mantle. They are trimmed with rows of guipure, terminated by large tassels of the same. Bonnet of white velours royal and blonde, with a plume of violet-coloured feathers. Under-trimming, violets interspersed with the blonde ruches. Strings of broad white ribbon. Collar and under sleeves of embroidered muslin.

Fig. 2. *Little Boy's Dress*.—Skirt and Zouave jacket of grey poplin ornamented with blue soutache. The centure is ornamented in corresponding style, and the ends are edged with blue fringe. The sleeves are demi-long, with undersleeves of white cambric. A round Tudor hat of black velvet, with a blue aigrette.

Fig. 3.—The cloak represented in this figure is one of the most recent Parisian novelties. It is called the *Voyageuse*, and is admirably well adapted either for travelling or as an ordinary carriage wrap. It is made of Havannah-coloured cloth, and trimmed with bands of plush of the same colour. Bonnet of dark blue velvet, trimmed with the same material intermingled with black lace. White ribbon strings.

Fig. 4.—This cloak, called the *Dolman*, is another Parisian introduction of the present season. It may be made either of black velvet or black cloth; if of the former, it may be trimmed with violet-coloured passementerie.

CONCERTS.

MR. ALFRED MELLON has taken time by the forelock with both hands. He has improved the short remaining opportunity which is left him of drawing a large outer class among his audience by the express performance of sacred music, and he has anticipated the production, at Exeter Hall, of "Elijah." We are to have "The Creation" in the course of next week, which will, it is said, be positively the last of the Promenade Concerts at Covent Garden. The performance of "Elijah" in the early part of the week now ended was in nearly all respects excellent. Mr. Lewis Thomas, a true artist, perfectly at home in oratorio music, sustained with complete efficiency the part of the Prophet. Mlle. Parepa, whose mechanical certainty is valuable on such occasions, threw rather more feeling into her clear and brilliant notes than usual. We cannot speak so favourably of Mlle. Laura Baxter's share in the labours of the evening, but she conquered to some extent her tendency to sing sharp, and is certainly not to be charged with want of pains and care. Mr. Vernon Rigby, a tenor who is a real acquisition, and whose voice, remarkably akin to that of Mr. Sims Reeves, has been evidently subjected to much discipline, conducted very largely to the effect of the oratorio. Miss Julia Bleaden lent a secondary aid which deserves honourable mention; and we may likewise observe that Mr. Edward Murray, not of en prominent as a vocalist, assisted, as second tenor, in ensuring the success of the fine double quartet. Mr. Mellon has given a Weber night since the performance above noticed.

THE NEW MINUTE ON EDUCATION.—The agitation against the revised Code of Education has compelled Government partially to give way. The code is postponed until Parliament can come to a decision. This concession is only fair, and we hope that, after a debate, the pecuniary clauses will be remodelled; but the principle of examination is all-important. The religious question has been disposed of by the Bishop of Lichfield. The manager, i.e., the clergy—can still find the tutor one-half his grant for deficient religious instruction.

THE LATE ROSE CHERI, THE ACTRESS.

THE real name of this favourite actress was Rose Cizos. Her father as a mother, Jean Baptiste Cizos and Juliette Garcin, were, thirty years ago, strolling players, known principally at Etampes and Chartres, but they afterwards travelled much in the southern provinces. Their daughter, Rose and Anna, were brought upon the stage when mere babies. One day, at Périgueux, the celebrated Prefect Romieu, seeing the two girls playing together, exclaimed, "Quelle jolie paire de Cizos!" (*Cizos*—what a pretty pair of scissors!). This official pun had great success, but the father was vexed at it, and ever afterwards took the name of Chéri, which was simply a common term of endearment used towards him by his wife and children. M. Romieu amply indemnified him for the liberty taken with his patronym by giving him a letter of introduction to Bayar, the dramatist, then in vogue in Paris. This circumstance led to the removal of the Cizos family to the metropolis, and was the foundation of their fortunes. On April 5, 1842, the favourite piece of "La Jeunesse Orageuse" was in the bills of the Gymnase, and the house was crowded. After the performance of the opening interlude an unusually long pause ensued, during which the audience became impatient, and at length M. Monval, the manager, came forward to say that Mlle. Nathalie, who was advertised for the principal part, was suddenly taken ill; but that, in order that the public might not be disappointed, a young lady, unknown in Paris, had kindly consented, *à regret*, to undertake the character. This announcement was received with murmurs. Presently a beautiful, modest-looking girl, almost a child, came forward, and at once prepossessed the audience in her favour. Her soft yet penetrating voice and charming manner gained all hearts as she went on, and at the fall of the curtain she was unanimously called for. "What is your name?" inquired M. Monval, as he prepared to lead her on the stage. "Rose Cizos." "That name will never do," said the manager hurriedly, "the public will laugh at it—give me another." "My father called himself Chéri in the provinces," said the timid débutante—and thereupon the name of Rose Chéri was for the first time proclaimed in that Gymnase Theatre of which she has since been one of the principal ornaments. One morning in the year 1847 the Cizos family was assembled in its little drawing-room when Scribe, the great dramatic author, came in with a look of importance, and dressed with scrupulous care. "Good morning, M. Scribe," said Rose, shaking him by the hand, "have you brought me a new part?" "Yes, mademoiselle, I have come to offer you a part which you ought to have had before this." "What is the catastrophe?" "Wait till you know the beginning," and, then making a bow to M. and Mme. Cizos, M. Scribe formally and solemnly demanded the hand of their eldest daughter for M. Lemoine-Montigny, manager of the Gymnase. The proposal was accepted, but the marriage was put off for two months for the following reason. Mlle. Rose Chéri's dramatic services had been too much needed by her family for them to suspend them even for a short period, and the country priests with whom Cizos had been in contact would not administer the "first communion"—that great ceremony which must precede a Catholic marriage—so long as the girls were on the stage. Monseigneur Affre, the late lamented Archbishop of Paris, took a more liberal view of the dramatic profession in relation to religion, and during two months Rose and Anna Chéri were wont to hurry away from rehearsal to receive religious instruction from the Vicar of St. Elizabeth. They subsequently received their first communion in the Church of St. Roch, and on May 12 Rose Chéri married M. Lemoine-Montigny, and her sister Anna M. Lesueur, the well-known actor at the Gymnase.

FRIGHTFUL ACCIDENT AT YORK.

AN accident of a fearful nature occurred at York on Friday afternoon week. For the past eighteen months a girder bridge has been in the course of construction to connect the two sides of the River Ouse at a point a short distance above the present stone bridge, and thus to give facilities for the making of an improved and direct approach from the railway station to the cathedral. The girders, which consist simply of lattice-work of wrought-iron plates, fastened with bolts, and strengthened along the outside with iron plates of greater thickness, were four in number, the two inner ones for the support of the carriage-way being, up to Friday afternoon, completed and lowered to their places, the ends of each resting upon the stone buttresses on each side of the river. Of the two lighter girders which were intended to form the outside of the footway, one was completed ready for lowering to its place on Friday afternoon.

At a short time before three o'clock the task of taking away the supports commenced, this having to be performed by means of a hydraulic-engine, which was placed under one end. This having been done, the workmen, a large number of whom were engaged in the operation, were just in the act of lowering the end of the girder to its place, when it, by some unaccountable means, toppled over and fell against the nearest road-girder. This, as before stated, being of considerably greater strength, and already resting in its bed, for a moment appeared as though it would resist the weight which had just been forced against it; but also ultimately fell over against its fellow road-girder. This in its turn likewise fell against the remaining outer foot-girder, which it forced over the side of the scaffolding into the river. Besides the workmen engaged in the lowering of the foot-girder there were also a large number working upon the other girders; and the consequence of the accident was that two of the former men were killed, the whole of those persons immediately engaged in the lowering not having time to escape before the mass of iron came down upon them. Three others also received serious injuries, and were conveyed to the York County Hospital.

The bulk of the men engaged upon and between the remaining girders had time to escape by running along the planking to the end or by jumping into the river. There were, however, a number who were also thrown into the river, and, though several were immediately afterwards rescued, it was not known whether there were not some who might have fallen therein, and were under the girder. The names of the killed are—a youth, about seventeen, named Richard Masser; and a young man, about twenty-two years of age, named John Manuel, the son of a foreman in a Manchester manufactory. The injured are—a man named Coulter, another named Dorrance, and a third named Peckett. The scene immediately after the accident was almost indescribable. What only a few minutes before had appeared to be a bridge in an advanced state of completion, and which was to have been opened in a few months, was become a perfect wreck, three of the girders being lost upon their sides, and the fourth having disappeared in the water beneath. Of the massive gentry which had been erected on either side of the bridge, and upon which the travelling cranes passed along, one side had disappeared. The piles underneath the bridge, and the various stays and supports in all directions, though apparently of enormous strength and solidity, were broken in pieces like so many sticks, and with these the surface of the Ouse was strewn in all directions. A travelling crane which was being used upon the gantry at the time of the accident came down with a frightful crash, but, fortunately, did not assist in adding to the personal injury which was the result of the fall of the other part of the fabric. The hairbreadth escapes were numerous, and some of the most miraculous character. Mr. Moore, the superintendent of the works for Messrs. Calvert, the contractors, though engaged in the placing of the girder, fortunately escaped. The loss which has been sustained it is impossible at present to estimate, though it may be reckoned by thousands of pounds; and this, it is presumed, will fall upon Messrs. Calvert.

Another report states that, besides the dead bodies recovered, four persons were believed to be lying buried under the ruins in the water.

SERIOUS ACCIDENTS AND LOSS OF LIFE AT THE EXHIBITION BUILDING.—On Saturday last no less than three accidents, one fatal, and a second, it is feared, will be so, took place at the works of the International Building at South Kensington. The fatal accident was to William Spriggs, aged twenty-six, who, whilst engaged on one of the lofty scaffolds hauling up timber, together with two others, walked backwards, and fell from the scaffold to the ground, a distance of upwards of sixty feet. Spriggs groined twice and expired. The other two men were removed to St. George's Hospital very seriously injured.

FATAL RAILWAY ACCIDENT IN FRANCE.—On Friday night week the express-train from Amiens to Paris ran into another train coming from Dammartin at the junction of the two lines. Five carriages of the Dammartin train were overturned. The driver was blown into the air by the explosion of the engine-boiler, and fell on the rail without sustaining any serious injury. The Amiens train was not much damaged by the collision. Five persons were killed, and others seriously injured.

COLLISION AT SEA.—LOSS OF A HULL BALTIC STEAMER.—Messrs. C. M. Norwood and Co. have received telegrams announcing the total loss of their splendid Baltic steamer, the *Neva*, which left Hull last week for St. Petersburg, with a valuable general cargo. It appears that about half-past three o'clock on Saturday morning the steamer H. L. Hevid ran into the *Neva* amidst ships on her port side, inflicting such serious injury that the *Neva* sank very rapidly. The crew, however, managed to get aboard the H. L. Hevid, and were thus saved. The *Neva* was quite a new steamer of about 600 tons burden, with four bulkheads, was fitted up with water-tight compartments, and her last voyage was her fifth voyage. She was insured. The other steamer was only very slightly injured.

PASSPORTS TO THE UNITED STATES.—The American Minister in London has issued circulars to all the American Consuls in England requesting them to make it generally known at their respective ports that all parties leaving for the United States will be obliged to procure a passport from the respective authorities having the power of granting such. The other day, we believe, the United States' Consul at Liverpool received a circular to the above effect.

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